

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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UNIONS CALL GENERAL STRIKE FOR 6 DECEMBER

PY052027 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 Dec 82 p 9

[Text] The possibility of a near-total general strike for Monday gained strength yesterday, as all three sectors of the labour movement (the Brasil and Azopardo branches of the CGT [General Labor Confederation] and the non aligned unions) reaffirmed their support for the 24-hour nationwide work stoppage.

The secretariat of the multiparty grouping added its support to the measure as well, in a statement which read in part: "The legitimacy of any protest by workers cannot be denied until the government faces up to the persistence of this economic situation which tears the social fabric of the nation."

The CGT-Brasil officially announced its participation in the strike by releasing a document entitled "The Workers' Struggle Is Our Struggle. Our Struggle Is the Struggle of the People."

The combined influence of the three labour groups participating in the general strike of over more than six million workers practically guaranteed the stoppage of all industrial activity and public services, although most unions plan to post skeleton staffs to provide crucial and emergency services.

All the unions representing public transport workers have joined the strike, meaning that there will be no train, subway or bus services unless bus company owners decide to man their own buses -- which they have no plans of doing at the moment. The taxi drivers' union has also decided to take part in the strike. Unions representing port and maritime workers are also supporting the strike, so there will be no port activity whatsoever. The situation regarding airline flights is less clear, since union activists from that sector have said their union is in the process of normalization and cannot guarantee that the strike will be carried out, although they said a high degree of absenteeism among ground crews will probably snarl air traffic considerably.

The Municipal Workers' Union, which represents 54,000 workers in the capital, announced that there would be only emergency staffs at hospitals and to tend to street lighting, traffic lights and cemeteries. The same decision was taken by unions of workers from state companies, which will provide skeleton staffs in such services as the national water, electricity, telephone, telegraph and postal companies. This means that such essential services as water, electricity and the telephone will function on Monday, although probably with reduced efficiency.

The one-million member State Workers' Union, grouping government administration workers, teachers, civilian employees of the armed forces, etc, also supports the strike. So does the Commercial Workers' Confederation, which also represents about one million workers, as did the Actors' and Cinema workers' Unions. The National Grocery Store Owners' Federation also expressed support for the general strike and urged grocers and retailers to close their shops in a gesture of support for the measure on Monday.

Other Groups Join In

PY052109 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 5 Dec 82 p 13

[Text] The first general nationwide strike organized since the military came to power six and a half years ago is set to be a success tomorrow, with nearly all labour unions declaring they are going along with the General Confederation of Labour (CGT) Azopardo and Brasil factions' call.

The strike, organized by the CGT-Azopardo and later joined by the CGT-Brasil and the non-aligned unions, has five aims: higher wages, the reactivation of production, aid for the unemployed, the return of social services to the unions, and an end to indexation.

The CGT-Brasil has demands of its own, including the immediate release of prisoners held without charges and investigations into the cases of missing persons and Argentina's massive foreign debt, accumulated during the recent years of military rule.

The non-aligned, who want the unification of Argentina's labour movement, have asked that the strike be followed by a meeting of union leaders for the creation of a new, single CGT.

The strike will include all major services, including transport and communications workers. The strike has also been joined by the major associations of psychologists, grocers and retired workers and pensioners in Buenos Aires. It has also received the backing of political labour groupings such as the 62 organizations and the internal groupings of the CGT Azopardo.

The Radical Union Action Group (ARAS) has also expressed its support for the strike, along with other groupings such as the MNI [expansion unknown] (which groups communist labour leaders) and the MAS [Social Affirmation Movement], grouping socialist labour leaders.

But the multiparty political grouping has not yet officially pronounced itself on the strike, Radical Party leader Carlos Contin said yesterday, despite earlier reports to the contrary. Contin said that the statement put out by the multiparty supporting the strike had not been raised to the grouping's coordinating committee and that it had not therefore been reviewed by all five parties which make up the group. The statement said that "the legitimacy of all workers' protests cannot be ignored until the government shows sense and justice on the persistence of an economic situation which tears at the social body of Argentina and is on the conscience of all Argentines."

The union of Buenos Aires taxi drivers, headed by Roberto Garcia, has also said it will join tomorrow's strike.

Strike Practically Total

PY061130 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1103 GMT 6 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Dec (DYN) -- The strike that has been called for by all union sectors in a unanimous attitude of protest against the military government has been carried out since 0001 [0301 GMT] today and is practically total.

The city of Buenos Aires woke up to a completely different panorama, because neither trains nor subways are running. The public transport system is also paralyzed and very few taxis are to be seen on the streets.

Three of the 10 morning newspapers that are published in this city did not appear on the stands today. They are: LA PRENSA, LA VOZ and EL CRONISTA COMMERCIAL. CONVICCION was not published today, but then as of today that newspaper will not be published on Mondays. Radio stations have reduced their news services considerably.

The number of private vehicles on the streets of this city is higher than usual. Very few service stations are open to the public. Some buses that left before the measure went into force arrived with passengers at the bus station located in Constitution District.

INTERIOR MINISTRY CLOSES ANOTHER MAGAZINE

PY040220 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0008 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA) -- The Interior Ministry has ordered the confiscation of the latest issue of the magazine COMPANERO and the closure of its offices. The measure was adopted by extending the decree that ordered the definitive closure of the magazine LINEA. According to the Interior Ministry, COMPANERO continued with LINEA's editorial line. The offices of this most recently banned magazine are located at 2057 Rivadavia Avenue in this capital.

GOVERNMENT DENIES RESTRICTIONS IN FORCE ON EEC

PY031315 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2225 GMT 1 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Dec (NA) -- The Argentine Government has reported that there are no economic or commercial restrictions on EEC countries "that are in force as such." The Foreign Ministry has issued a statement that denies press reports from European circles about an alleged request submitted to the EEC by Argentina.

SAN JUAN GOVERNOR RESIGNS; SUCCESSOR NAMED

PY031646 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA) -- The Argentine Interior Ministry at noon today confirmed that the resignation of San Juan Governor Leopoldo Bravo has been accepted. The communique issued by the Interior Ministry states: "The resignation of San Juan Governor Leopoldo Bravo has been accepted and he has been thanked for services rendered to the nation. Eduardo Alfredo Posleman, who has been serving as interior minister of that province, has been appointed Bravo's successor."

CORRECTION TO LAUNCHING OF FEDERAL PARTY FACTION

The following correction pertains to the item entitled "New Federal Party Faction Officially Launched," published on page B 5 of the 3 December Latin American DAILY REPORT:

In the first paragraph, lines two and three should read: "...definitely doing away with a stopgap approach to economic policy"... (rewording per monitor recheck)

FURTHER REACTION TO REAGAN VISIT REPORTED

Itamaraty Spokesman

PY032124 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 3 Dec 82 p 5

[Text] Brasilia (O GLOBO) -- The Itamaraty spokesman stated yesterday that the visit of the U.S. President to Brazil "was marked by a tone of dialogue, of cooperation and understanding."

According to the spokesman, the visit took place in an extremely positive climate and "despite all the indispensable security apparatus," everything ran smoothly.

Talks between the two presidents were marked by "great empathy," and the assessment of the results made by Itamaraty is quite positive. According to the spokesman, the U.S. officials have not indicated that the United States wants Brazil to moderate its remarks.

Although the search for the recomposition of the inter-American system was one of the objectives of the visit of President Reagan to Latin America, the Itamaraty spokesman stated yesterday that Central America and the Malvinas issue were treated only "in terms of the general objectives of each country's policies."

In answer to a question about what has been done in favor of the inter-American system in the first of the four countries visited by Reagan, the spokesman stated that it is difficult to explain the objectives of the visitors' trip. Regarding Brazil, the spokesman only said that at no time did the government give up working for the recomposition of the inter-American system, even during the crisis.

Itamaraty also stated that it sees no reason to relate a U.S. loan to Brazil announced on the first day of the visit by Secretary of State George Shultz to a more automatic alignment of Brazilian foreign policy with the United States. There were no connections at all between those two subjects, the spokesman stated.

He cited, as proof that a dialogue between the United States and Brazil is intensive and that it is nothing new, the fact that during the past 12 months Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro has met with the U.S. secretary of state seven times -- five times with Alexander Haig and twice with Shultz.

Politicians on Meeting With Reagan

PY032112 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 2 Dec 82 p 9

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- During a meeting yesterday at the Alvorada Palace, President Ronald Reagan told politicians of the government and the opposition sectors that the process of economic integration and exchange of information between Brazil and the United States must be enhanced so that the two countries may become the guarantee "for America's social stability."

During the 1/2 hour meeting with 11 politicians of the government and opposition sectors, President Reagan listened to Paulo Maluf, who tried to make himself understood in English, to Ulysses Guimaraes, senator for the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] and Jose Sarney, senator for the PDS [Social Democratic Party].

Ulysses Guimaraes criticized the discriminatory U.S. policy regarding its imports and also referred to the recent election in which the PMDB obtained nine governorships, two of which will be held by Tancredo Neves and Franco Montoro, who were at the meeting.

Ulysses stated that "this shows that we have been accredited and have the legitimate right to talk on behalf of Brazilian society, not only because of the number of states in which we won the elections, but because those states in which we won represent 60 percent of the country's gross domestic product." In referring to the greetings he conveyed to President Reagan, Ulysses told journalists that "I explained to him that the country's redemocratization was our objective and this meant holding direct elections for president of the republic."

When Jose Sarney, president of the PDS, addressed President Reagan he stated that he shared Ulysses' criticism on the U.S. protectionist policy and interest rates because these are concerns shared by everyone. He said that the Brazilian Government has already drawn U.S. attention to this. In referring to political aspects, Sarney told President Reagan that 57 million Brazilian citizens went to the ballot boxes, a figure which amazed the U.S. President who pointed out that it was larger than the number of U.S. citizens who cast their vote during the U.S. elections in November. At the end of the meeting, Sarney told the journalists that "I told him that President Figueiredo's statements were statements meant to have an impact and not just to be heard in view of his determination, his obstinacy, in trying to democratize the country."

Commerce Minister on Investments

PY031617 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Dec 82 p 5

[Excerpt] Industry and Commerce Minister Camilo Penna believes that President Reagan's visit to Brazil will mark a "turning point" in U.S. investments in the Western world. The minister stated that he sensed this "new change" in Reagan's administration after the meeting he held yesterday with the U.S. advisers. The minister believes that as a consequence of this change direct U.S. investments in Brazil will increase.

Penna stated that "U.S.-European relations are going through a transition period due to the disagreements in the trade field which cannot be overcome for the time being. U.S. investments scheduled for Europe will be channeled to other areas of the free world and the volume will increase in Latin America. Therefore, we must take advantage of this historic moment."

Netto on Relations, Loans

PY032231 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 3 Dec 82 p 7

[Text] Brasilia (O GLOBO) -- After a meeting with U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan, Planning Minister Delfim Netto stated yesterday that trade relations between Brazil and the United States will improve greatly, not only as far as the loan is concerned, but also regarding "a greater understanding of Brazilian export difficulties."

While Presidents Figueiredo and Ronald Reagan -- accompanied by their foreign ministers and ambassadors -- held talks at the presidential office, Planning and Finance Ministers Delfim Netto and Ernane Galveas, the president of the Central Bank and the coordinator of the international department of the Planning Ministry and other advisers participated in a meeting at the Planning Ministry with Treasury Secretary Donald Regan and other high-ranking U.S. advisers.

In terms of loans, Netto stated that Reagan's visit to Brazil resulted only in the formalization of credits for \$1.2 billion which, according to him, were already negotiated almost 3 weeks ago.

We cannot talk about an amount of loans. There was a "bridge loan" [given in English] of \$1.2 billion, no more. This is a normal market "bridge" like other bank "bridges." There is nothing special about it, but within the group of projects you have a large number of loans, and as soon as they are consolidated, we are going to pay our debts, Netto stated.

Asked whether this means that the foreign debt will be administrated at a more accelerated pace, Netto stated: There is no accelerated pace at all. Everything is going to be the same. What you have is a nonexistent market, but that market is going to emerge again.

Regarding what the U.S. Government could be demanding from Brazil in return for the \$1.2 billion loan and for greater understanding of the Brazilian export problems, the planning minister stated: There is no demand at all. This loan is just a common "bridge" as if it were made by a bank, except that it was made from treasury to treasury. It is a "bridge" just like other normal ones.

POST: Loans Show Confidence

PY032206 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICAN DAILY POST in English 3 Dec 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Reagan's Surprises"]

[Text] While billed beforehand as a "working visit" that would not generate any "pre-cooked agreements" the visit of President Reagan has turned into almost exactly the opposite.

Heading the list of agreements unveiled during the first day of Reagan-Figueiredo talks was the unexpected announcement of a \$1.2 billion short-term, low interest rate loan for Brazil. It had been stated by U.S. officials that a major purpose of the trip was to assist this country in its efforts to meet debt payment obligations coming due before the end of the year. While U.S. Ambassador Motley refused to label the visit a "rescue mission" there is no question that the government-to-government loan announced by Secretary of State Shultz is well-timed. Brazil has already mapped out a rational and positive approach to 1983, cutting down imports and raising exports in order to reach a \$6 billion surplus, but this still left unresolved the immediate problem of servicing the remainder of this year's debt payments. Given the moves Brazil has taken to control currency flow and generate foreign reserves it seems impossible that the International Monetary Fund will not grant the country's request for long term loans. And now with the \$1.2 billion boost Reagan has given Brazil, we all, from President Figueiredo on down, can breathe easier for the short term as well.

The importance of this loan cannot be underestimated. Not only does it provide funds at a critical moment but it underlines, in unmistakable terms, first the American commitment to assist Brazil [to] remain solvent and, second, the confidence the Reagan administration has in Brazil's ability to resolve its financial difficulties. With such a loud vote of approval coming at a moment when international bankers are still wary of loans to Latin American, Brazil has once again managed to distance itself from the less fortunate nations of our region, particularly Mexico and Argentina, and to project a "clean image" abroad. The message emerging from the Reagan visit is, "yes, we believe in Brazil. Everyone should." That will go a long way to removing remaining international doubts on the immediate future of Brazil.

In addition to the loan, the Reagan visit has produced a series of working groups to delve into such thorny problems as the question of selling nuclear fuel to Brazil and the resumption of military cooperation between the two nations.

According to Shultz, the working groups have "a thrust behind them from the President to really get at these subjects." Also announced on Wednesday was confirmation that the U.S. will back Brazil's decision to extend the time limit for suspension of agricultural export subsidies and a change in American sugar import quotas which will allow sugar outside of the quota limit to be imported for refining into alcohol.

All of this points to a major effort by the Reagan administration to firm up its relationships with Brazil and through Brazil with Latin America as a whole. To their credit, the American delegation in making the announcements refrained from anything that could be interpreted as a condescending attitude. The agreements were just that, the results of negotiations between two nations with mutual interests. The fact that one is undeniably stronger and wealthier than the other did not in any way dilute the impression of equals dealing with equals that has emerged from the talks. In short, the results of the first day of discussions between Reagan and Figueiredo and officials from both sides was a well-needed and much-deserved expression of confidence in Brazil and its leaders.

Impact of Loan Analyzed

PY032332 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 3 Dec 82 p 2

[Editorial: "Reagan's Loan"]

[Text] The \$1.23 billion loan obtained by the Brazilian Government through President Reagan is both welcomed and worrisome. It is welcomed because it is an important credit and because it shows the determination U.S. officials have to see Brazil's foreign exchange position recover. It is also a gesture that to some degree will have a positive influence on international bankers regarding Brazil.

It is a worrisome issue when one realizes that this loan expires in 3 months and that it must be paid when the IMF compensatory loan is issued. This merely shows that today there is no maneuvering room in the Brazilian foreign exchange position. This is so to such an extent that we cannot afford to wait for the IMF loan. Therefore, Reagan's "bridge-loan" [given in English] will be used to avoid Brazil's lack of currency. It must be noted that this lack of currency may also cause problems to large U.S. banks since they are our major creditors. This means that in addition to being a friendly attitude, Reagan's gesture is also a measure aimed at protecting U.S. financial interests.

Experience has shown society that the tactic of concealing Brazil's foreign exchange problems has been unproductive and self-defeating. The same can be said about the repeated optimistic statements issued by economic officials which proved to be inadequate for making a realistic evaluation and for taking the proper measures to avoid this situation. Although erroneous tactics and styles are not the major causes of present problems, they have certainly not contributed to diminishing them.

Opposition Criticism

PY042009 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Report from Brasilia]

[Excerpt] The PMDB's [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] executive board has charged at a press conference that there is the threat that agreements and measures, which will be very harmful to the country, are about to be signed and that the consequences of such an unsupportable social situation will fall on the shoulders of the population, which will not have enough to count on in order to be able to survive. The nation and the National Congress do not deserve this.

The note indicates that the following irreparable harm will occur: There will be an increase in unemployment and inflation will increase, increasing the great sacrifice of the workers. A very heavy burden will also fall on the nation's small and medium sized business sectors.

The PDT [Democratic Labor Party] states that the problems of Brazil's external indebtedness will now be under the tutelage of the U.S. Treasury. Brazil's resorting to the international financial system will have the ultimate consequence of making the country vulnerable to external imbalances, which has been happening since 1980.

The PMDB's executive board has also decided to create a special committee of congressmen to study the party's situation in view of the outcome of the 15 November elections and to carry out an analysis of the PMDB's position and action to be taken in face of the country's economic and social situation.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN: NO TROOPS FOR LEBANON

PY041847 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] The Lebanese Government has asked Brazil for 2,000 soldiers for the international peacekeeping force. The mission of this force is to prevent clashes between the various parties involved in the Lebanese conflict. The Brazilian charge d'affaires in Beirut was summoned to the Lebanese Foreign Ministry to receive the official request for troops. The same request has been made to Portugal, Colombia and Costa Rica [as heard].

Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas has indicated that it will be impossible to send troops to Lebanon. He emphasized that this statement of his is based on the request which Lebanon made in August last year when the current multinational force made up of U.S., French and Italian troops was created.

FIGUEIREDO NOT INTERESTED IN REELECTION

PY021541 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 25 Nov 82 p 3

[Excerpts] President Joao Baptista Figueiredo dismissed yesterday the idea of running for reelection in a remark addressed to the governor of Rondonia, Col Jorge Teixeira: "This [the presidency] is for those who are younger. I have already contributed my share."

A close aide to the president recalled that the reelection is banned by the Constitution, and that to amend the constitutional provision, a two-third majority vote in Congress would be necessary. With the new composition of Congress, no political party commands that number of votes.

BRIEFS

FRG-BUILT SUBMARINE -- Brasilia, 2 Dec (AFP) -- Brazil and the FRG today signed an agreement to build two submarines for the Brazilian Navy, an official Brazilian source has reported. The agreement, which was signed between the firms Mowalt Deutsche were of Kiel, FRG, and Ferrostaal do Brasil, provides for the building of one submarine in the FRG and another in Brazil. The submarines, which have a 3-year completion deadline, are of the design IKL 1,400 (1,400 tons), which are used by the FRG Navy under the code name U 209. The agreement also contemplates transfer of German technology to Brazil, with the exception of highly sophisticated equipment, which will be manufactured by the FRG. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 2157 GMT 2 Dec 82 PY]

BETANCUR SPEAKS AT BANQUET FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN

PA032358 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 2012 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Speech by President Belisario Betancur at luncheon meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Narino Palace in Bogota -- live]

[Text] [Words indistinct], Your Excellency the papal nuncio; dean of the diplomatic corps; ambassador of the United States; secretary of state; president of the Colombian Congress; president of the Supreme Court; Dr Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, vice president and presidential designate; members of the diplomatic corps; members of President Reagan's delegation; ministers, deputy ministers, guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Mr President, you are visiting Latin America at a time when it is experiencing its worst crisis of the last 50 years. At the end of 1982, our countries have seen their per capita income drop, unemployment and underemployment has reached 30 percent in some areas and foreign debt has reached \$700 million, meaning that of \$100 million derived from exports, 60 percent will be used to service that debt. Each Latin American child is born owing \$300. Meanwhile, an insane world is spending \$1 million every minute in arming for death. To these factors must be added the disrupters of the political peace of the region and the nation, which Colombia is recovering through a broad amnesty and rehabilitation of the areas of conflict, because the struggle against subversion is intermingled with the struggle against underdevelopment in our region.

A little over 20 years ago, President Kennedy also visited Latin America and, confirming these same problems in his stopovers, he created the Alliance for Progress. Although its intentions were greater than its results, the continent set its slight resources in order, planned its objectives and began to discipline itself in order to better channel foreign aid. I hope that once you are back in your great country, Mr President, specific decisions will be made similar to the results of that tour.

Of course, you have many foreign concerns as the President of a nation upon which the destiny of the world rests to a great extent. Those concerns are not foreign to Latin America, because we live in an interdependent universe in which no one can escape [words indistinct] from the favorable or disturbing effects elsewhere on the planet.

Adlai Stevenson once said that today's world is like the skin of a drum: no matter where it is struck, the repercussions are felt throughout. Your dialogue with the rulers of Latin America, interpreting my Latin American compatriots here and in Central America, we want to struggle for peace, the ambition of the people of Central and South America and the Caribbean. [sentence as heard] This peace is not achieved through pressure or isolation, but through assistance without distinction and through broad dialogue, as we have proposed in various international forums and the OAS.

In this regard, Mr President, [words indistinct] in the inter-American system, so that within the United Nations all of this hemisphere's peoples will have an open forum that represents the continent's true reality.

In recent years, parts of American territory have been the scene of the struggle of foreign blocs. Central America and the Caribbean appear to be the battleground for foreign fighters. Terrorism is spreading like an oil slick and the democratic debate that would define our countries' basic values has been diminished by repressive authoritarianism or displaced by violence.

Our sense of responsibility as a head of state does not allow us to remain impassive in the face of [words indistinct] our common people and geography. Thirty thousand graves in El Salvador, to mention only a single nation, shakes awake the consciences of slumbering leaders.

We cannot debate calmly on abstract problems of hemispheric organizations when parts of Central America are on fire with wars caused by social justice or instigated by persons that are alien to those areas.

Therefore, while speaking of the urgent need for a new social alliance without dependence, I also state that the region needs peace for cooperation and cooperation for peace.

The governments' concern is focused on the somber effects that the world economy has on our weak economies, because these effects are endured directly by our most dispossessed classes.

I spoke, Mr President, of a new social alliance. We want fair payment for our products and we would like to cooperate and advance together. It would be a serious error if, as in the past, the United States were to see a potential enemy or a factor of exclusion in intra-Latin American cooperation. If to the decline in the price of raw materials one adds a protectionist policy against our products, as denounced by former Presidents Carter and Ford and even by your own envoy to international negotiations, Mr President, the panorama for the Latin American and Caribbean peoples will become gloomier every day, because those practices bring frustration and do us irreparable harm.

It cannot be understood, for example, how after we have decided to export and to diversify our trade, international markets are closed to us and with them the opportunity to be partners in the world's financial and commercial dynamics. This is done by the European economic communities. This occurs with some countries that ignore the GATT agreements. This is done by the United States, by restricting the IMF and the IDB. This is a fact, Mr President.

A feeling of solidarity requires that we talk about the magnitude and consequences of Latin America's foreign debt. Although Colombia is not experiencing this situation as dramatically as others, it cannot leave its trade balance unprotected. The international banks encouraged the flow of capital to Latin America and to other regions, imprudently contributing to the area's indebtedness. Now that the river of dollars has been stopped, the situation is worse. Thus it is time to call for a renegotiation that takes the development of the debtor country's economy into account if one wants to ensure that it meets its commitments, which is, of course, in the interest of the creditor banking community. In this regard, debt servicing, including that which may be derived from cooperation agreements, should not exceed a certain percentage of the value of annual exports.

There should also be talk, Mr President, of an emergency plan that involves a collection of instruments at the disposal of the countries to allow them to confront the specific nature of their own problems. Latin America is without liquidity, but it is not insolvent. Latin America can pay and wants to pay, but faced with the abyss of a brutal adjustment in its economy, because it does not have the financial world's support for recovering its liquidity, it might be forced by social forces to declare bankruptcy, thereby producing reactions that no one desires and that no one uses as an argument in our region.

It must be noted that even in times as difficult as the present, and despite pressures to turn to solutions of nonpayment, all Latin American countries without exception are resorting to adjustments and to negotiations, making efforts to pay and meet their obligations. I attest to these efforts, Mr President, because within the limitation of its resources, Colombia is helping our Latin American brothers with credit lines for supplies and for trade-balance purposes.

The emergency plan I am talking about is in line with the need to change the U.S. position regarding the capitalization of the IDB, to expand the IMF's credit capacity, and to liberalize the terms of the IMF standby agreements. A greater dynamism is needed for the negotiation of trade policies for controversial exports such as flowers, sugar and leather, from which [words indistinct] Colombia. The truth is that the industrialized countries have one attitude in theory when it comes to promises and a very different and harsh attitude when it comes to sitting at a negotiating table. But this is true with the exception of your country and other friendly nations regarding the ratification of the recent world coffee agreement.

Mr President, I know that you understand the straightforwardness of my remarks, which have the unpolished frankness that characterizes the people of my land, for I know that this frankness matches your own frankness, which has been the key to your great career and because I also understand that you want to hear the truth of a conscientious friend of the United States.

This frank and friendly visit could restore the terms of the political exchange between the United States and Latin America, which became deteriorated over the still unresolved problem of the Malvinas, in which the region was abandoned.

Thanks to your decision to make this visit, I am honored to recognize that this has not been the monologue of the poor brother to his rich brother or of the conditional friend to an unconditional friend because we are true friends according to our own consciences. This has been an objective and respectful analysis between equals in the [word indistinct] international community. For this reason, we understand that we must make nonalignment our philosophy in order to seek our own identity.

In beginning this bicentennial of the birth of Simon Bolivar, the liberator of several of our nations, allow me, Mr President, to reiterate the hope that the chiefs of state of the entire continent can commemorate it by discussing our problems and differences in order to achieve the happiness of our peoples. [Words indistinct] like Bolivar said [words indistinct] based on [words indistinct] liberty and equality.

President Reagan, I toast you and the U.S. people. Let the God of our homelands enlighten us to better serve our nations in strengthened democracies.

A great U.S. poet, Carl Sandburg, asked: Can anyone live without hope? Let's raise this glass that happiness may prevail. [applause]

REACTION TO PRESIDENT REAGAN'S VISIT REPORTED

Foreign Minister Calls Visit 'Useful'

PA032320 Bogota CARACOL Network in Spanish 2216 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Interview with Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo at El Dorado Airport in Bogota following departure of U.S. President Ronald Reagan -- live]

[Excerpt] [Question] Regarding the proposal made by Colombia for a conference of heads of state, was this discussed with President Reagan?

[Answer] Evidently, President Betancur's speech referred specifically to the opportunity of using Bolivar's bicentennial as a propitious occasion for a continental conference of heads of state. I believe that this was a very specific proposal.

[Question] What is your opinion of the new relations between Washington and our countries represented by this kind of direct exchange between heads of state and their foreign ministers?

[Answer] I believe that this has been a very useful opportunity for the U.S. Government to learn what is felt in Latin America, what our problems are and what our concerns are. President Betancur departed from a simple protocol speech to call things by their right name. This also permitted President Reagan to refer to specific issues and to make specific statements, particularly on economics, which can be of great interest in the future.

[Question] Thank you, Mr Foreign Minister. This dialogue has been very significant, because it is the first time that we have been able to talk about what happened at this conference this afternoon.

Officials, Papers Comment

PA051839 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0823 GMT 5 Dec 82

[Text] Bogota, 4 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- Government officials today declared that they were satisfied with the results of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's visit to Bogota yesterday and hoped that there would be short-term results from the bilateral contacts, which were considered "frank and cordial."

"There was a frank exchange of opinions, without protocol," said Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo today.

"The direct exchange of opinions on Colombia's and Latin America's problems was valuable, although no decisions with an immediate effect were made, Treasury Minister Edgard Gutierrez told journalists.

In journalistic circles it was said today that President Belisario Betancur "came out well" from his meeting with Reagan, who was "surprised" at the frankness of his host. Betancur asked Reagan not to impose excessively protectionist measures that obstruct the export of products from Third World countries and demanded unrestricted aid for the Central American countries.

In an editorial entitled "Before the United States and Before the World," the Bogota newspaper EL ESPECTADOR said today that "the president's frankness demonstrated that Colombia has nothing to hide in the international game." "After President Reagan's visit we can say that we have the capacity of play, without arrogance and with a certain expected effectiveness, a positive role in the unrest of Central America and the Caribbean," it added.

The "Social alliance to face the economic crisis" proposed by Betancur in the speeches he delivered yesterday in Reagan's presence was emphasized by the newspaper EL SIGLO as the most positive fact of the 5-hour visit.

Economic Development Minister Roberto Gerlein revealed today that he told President Reagan's economic team that it is discouraging for Colombia and other underdeveloped nations, that in spite of the constant expressions of trade freedom and good will, the industrialized nations try to solve their domestic problems with protectionist measures that principally affect the Third World bloc.

Finance Minister Edgard Gutierrez expressed satisfaction after his 2-hour talk with U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan. According to the minister "the bases were laid for future action aimed at strengthening Colombia's prospects for trade and to improve our relations on terms of international financing." "We expect that the United States will comprehend and better understand the role of the underdeveloped countries, and that this attitude will be reflected in international organizations such as GATT," he emphasized.

Student Demonstrations

PA032040 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2018 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Text] Bogota, 3 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- Hundreds of students who were protesting U.S. President Ronald Reagan's visit to Colombia clashed today with police forces near the National University. According to eyewitnesses, some 500 students chanting anti-U.S. slogans and throwing rocks were dispersed by police with teargas.

Official sources state that two policemen were injured and 10 students arrested, while other groups on campus burned effigies of Reagan.

According to eyewitnesses, elsewhere in the city police forces kept another group of university students who were chanting "Yankee go home" from setting fire to a vehicle belonging to the state-run telephone company.

These incidents occurred while Colombian President Belisario Betancur and Reagan were meeting in the Government Palace.

An official spokesman declared that "the incidents were provoked by political agitators."

Groups of demonstrators booed and whistled at Reagan earlier, while he placed a floral wreath at the foot of the monument to liberator Simon Bolivar.

Shortly before Reagan's arrival in Bogota from Brazil, alleged leftists had detonated three bombs here in the capital.

Disturbances Cease

PA032301 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 2240 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Report by (Christian Martinez) from the National University in Bogota, Colombia -- live telephone relay]

[Text] After 5 hours of skirmishes between policemen and students, the incidents caused by the students in protest of President Reagan's visit to Colombia have ended here. For 5 hours, from the exact moment when he arrived until a few minutes after he left, students at the National University were involved in incidents that were quite [words indistinct]. As a result, five policemen were seriously injured and were evacuated from the site of the incidents to the police clinic. [Words indistinct]. Certain people were arrested, including [words indistinct] (Antonio Arrocha) and a young lady [words indistinct] cafeteria.

Teargas bombs were hurled at the National University's buildings several times, but once the demonstrators heard over CARACOL that President Reagan had left the country, they began to withdraw peacefully and left the university grounds.

Columnist Criticizes U.S. Policy, Visit

PA021402 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Nov 82 p 4-A

["Letting Off Steam" column by Enrique Santos Calderon: "Ronald Reagan's Democratic Visit"]

[Excerpts] Ronald Reagan comes to "strengthen democracy" in Latin America. This formal announcement by the State Department would seem like a bad joke if it weren't so cruel, if it didn't refer to this man and if he weren't doing what he is doing. What can Mr Reagan know deep in his heart about "Latin American democracy"? Is it possible that he will take this expression seriously? The truth is that our visitor next Friday is the same person who has resumed military aid to dictatorships on the continent, the same one who has made it clear at the United Nations that it is a matter of having "authoritarian friends" or "totalitarian enemies" in these countries. He is the president of a country whose press accuses him of being the instigator of a new Vietnam in Central America. He heads a government that seeks to make the most underdeveloped and vulnerable part of the continent the scene of an "exemplary East-West confrontation," in order to recover U.S. pride lost in Southeast Asia and the Middle East.

It was to be expected that a president like Reagan would choose this territory -- nearby and accessible -- to avenge U.S. political and military setbacks in Vietnam, Cambodia and Iran. It was to be expected that Central America would have to pay the piper, but what the Reagan administration is doing in this region surpasses the most pessimistic thoughts. As circumstances would have it, his government has been so clumsy in its Latin American policy -- like a caricature of itself -- that there is no longer any doubt as to how much it respects the democracy of its poor neighbors in the south.

The Colombian Government has most likely taken all of this into consideration. This can be seen in the change in its international policy, which has been viewed in Washington as a "cautious withdrawal" from the United States. This is so because Colombia cannot agree with a policy that seems to be aimed at making Central America -- in its entirety, from Mexico to Panama -- into one big battlefield. European news media have termed the situation as "one of the silliest diplomatic involvements in recent U.S. history."

Betancur's government seems to be aware of the urgency of adopting an independent stand and having an independent opinion regarding the conflicts in the region. In view of its geographical position and its new democratic credibility, Colombia can have an important role in finding a political and reasonable solution to the crisis. However, the regional leadership that Defense Minister Landazabal called for in recent days should include greater rapport with countries in a similar situation, such as Mexico, with whom it could form a strategic axis in Central America. At the same time, a distancing from Washington's dangerous warmongering policy is the necessary complement of an autonomous policy. In other words, it should be totally different from the policy followed by the Turbay administration, which seemed merely to follow the Pentagon's warmongering strategy for Central America and the Caribbean.

It would be healthy if Reagan arrived at the conclusion that Colombia is not El Salvador, and that we will not become "Central Americanized", after his hasty "technical stopover" in our country, a country that exports so many vices to his country, that is confronted with all kinds of guerrillas but that enjoys political democracy, a country that got rid of a Liberal president who was unconditionally faithful to the United States and elected a conservative Catholic who speaks against U.S. imperialism. The truth is that when they function, tropical democracies are not as elementary as White House experts believe.

In sum, it is being said that George Shultz, the new secretary of state, is terrified in view of the disaster in Latin America that he inherited from his predecessor, Alexander Haig, and that it is possible that there will be some political reconsiderations in the region -- hopefully. The least we can expect from Ronald Reagan's tour in Latin America is that he may discover where these people are, who they are and how they think. We hope he will learn more about democracy and geography, since these are two subjects in which he always fails.

M-19'S TOLEDO PLATA REAFFIRMS BETANCUR'S POLICY

PA050512 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] The most influential leaders of the 19 April Movement, M-19, regained their liberty this afternoon. They were cheered at La Picota prison by hundreds of persons who were awaiting them.

Carlos Toledo Plata, ideologist of the M-19 and doctor by profession, affirmed that he was pleased to know that the people support his movement, but that the important thing is to work for the country and struggle for those who have nothing. Toledo Plata added that the amnesty has been a great stride forward, but is not everything. He reaffirmed Betancur's policy and said that he will be where the people need him, because I owe myself to the people, he said.

PRESIDENT COUNTERS RUMORS ON HIS ARREST, CABINET

PY031205 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1110 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Excerpts] The nation's president has denied reports that he was under arrest. Lt Gen Gregorio Alvarez headed off rumors which, he said, were fanciful. He said that the corrupt and the eternal speculators in the market, start rumors for the purpose of obtaining profits in their dealings with the dollar. The president has also denied the existence of a split among government authorities. Asked about how such rumors can be snuffed out, President Alvarez said that the rumors will always circulate as long as ill-intentioned persons exist. General Alvarez also said that he does not intend to reshuffle the Cabinet for the time being.

[Begin recording] [Alvarez] These rumors are like many others; they are initiated by the corrupt and the all-weather speculators. This does not have a political objective, although it may, but primarily is aimed this time at speculating with the floating dollar, forcing the price increase of this currency to make extra profits. This is the only explanation I have for these fanciful and untrue rumors which are circulating today. Of course, tomorrow other rumors will be floated.

[Question] Will these rumors pass away? Is there any government action to neutralize what is being said?

[Answer] As long as there exist ill-intentioned persons there will be rumors.

[Question] Mr President, will the Cabinet continue as it is? No changes will be made?

[Answer] I do not foresee any change for the time being.

[Question] In no way whatsoever?

[Answer] In no way. [end recording]

ARMY, NAVY CHIEFS, ECONOMY MINISTER ON RUMORS

PY031247 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1110 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Army Commander Lt Gen Boscan Hontou and Navy Commander Adm Rodoifo Invidio have denied the existence of disagreements and unrest within the armed forces. In answering questions on the possible existence of disagreements within the armed forces, and in particular within the army, Lt Gen Boscan Hontou asserted that these rumors are groundless. Admiral Invidio on his part was categorical in stating that relations are excellent. He added that they had never been so normal, thus emphatically denying rumors being spread in this regard. Economy and Finance Minister Valentin Arismendi denied having resigned as insistent rumors claim.

UK REQUESTS PERMISSION FOR FALKLANDS STOPOVER

PY031302 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1110 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Text] The British Government has allegedly requested Uruguay's permission for British planes to make a stopover in Montevideo on their way to the Malvinas Islands. The British Government request had allegedly been submitted to the appropriate authorities by the British Ambassador.

DEMONSTRATIONS AT U.S. EMBASSY PROTEST TOUR

PA060230 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Dec 82

[Text] Thousands of persons demonstrated in front of the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City to repudiate the tour of Central and South American countries that U.S. President Ronald Reagan just completed. During the demonstration (Manuel Gonzalez), representative for the FMLN and the Democratic Revolutionary Front of El Salvador, said that Reagan's visit to Costa Rica and Honduras was to elaborate new plans to frustrate the liberation struggle of the Central American peoples.

(Jose Luis Balcarzer), a leader of the Guatemalan Patriotic Unity Committee, said that Ronald Reagan's presence in Central America is a new effort by Washington to align the area's regime against Sandinist Nicaragua as well as the Salvadoran and Guatemalan revolutionary processes. TASS said that the U.S. President's tour motivated many acts of protest against the White House's reactionary policy in Latin America.

Many Mexican and Latin American intellectuals today reiterated their solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and government in view of the aggression plans drafted by the United States. In a communique distributed in Mexico City, the intellectuals have charged that President Ronald Reagan's trip to Costa Rica and Honduras was intended to strengthen and seal a military alliance intended to open the way for aggression against Nicaragua. The communique states that no one can deny the seriousness of these events in which the U.S. Government has already involved mercenaries, former Somozist guards and broad sectors of the Honduran Army. They warned that the confrontation will not be limited to Honduras and Nicaragua but will involve conflict among all the peoples of the area and the repressive governments that support the U.S. intervention. In their statement the Latin American intellectuals voiced their solidarity for the efforts made by the Mexican, Venezuelan and French Governments to prevent the generalization of the war in Central America. The intellectuals also supported having discussions at a Latin American summit that will allow a political solution in that region.

PRICES DOUBLED TO REDUCE BUDGET DEFICIT

PA031947 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0727 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Commerce Secretariat has announced that effective last night the Mexican Government doubled the domestic price of gasoline in an attempt to increase budget income. A spokesman said that the government doubled the price of regular nova-type gasoline to 20 pesos per liter (\$1.08 a gallon), and of high-octane super gasoline to 30 pesos per liter (\$1.62 a gallon). Although he did not provide any details, the spokesman said the domestic price of natural gas and of heating fuel was also increased by close to 100 percent. All of these products are marketed by the state-owned monopoly Mexican Petroleum (Pemex), which is also responsible for more than one-third of the public sector's foreign debt of \$60 billion. Industrial analysts said the measure will at least double Pemex's domestic income next year to 250 billion pesos (\$3.57 million). They also believe Pemex will be receiving more than \$15 billion for its exports.

This price hike is the first of the corrective austerity measures anticipated by President Miguel de la Madrid, who was inaugurated Wednesday. In his inaugural speech de la Madrid promised to reduce the deficit in the official budget by raising taxes and the prices of the products manufactured by the public sector. A preliminary agreement between Mexico and the IMF establishes a review of Mexico's tax system and the prices of products manufactured by the public sector as a condition for a loan of some \$3.84 billion. This is the first increase in the price of gasoline in the past 4 months.

COSTA RICAREPORTAGE ON, REACTION TO REAGAN'S VISIT

Monge 3 Dec News Conference

PA0322309 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2157 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Text] San Jose, 3 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge said here today that it is grossly unfair to say that Ronald Reagan is bringing "war and blood" on his visit to Central America.

In a press conference held a few hours before the U.S. President's arrival in this capital, Monge, after noting the historic importance of this visit, expressed his resentment that Costa Rica has not received the attention that it should as a U.S. democratic ally in America.

The Costa Rican president insisted that Reagan's visit, like his two previous meetings with him in Washington, is part of a "process to justly determine Costa Rica's role in the defense of democracy in Central America."

Monge indicated that in his previous meetings with the U.S. President, other forms of economic assistance were discussed, but he added that he does not have information as to any specific developments in this field.

Asked about the "coincidence" of the fact that 24 hours after the U.S. President's visit, a Socialist International delegation is arriving, Monge said that he didn't know if this was sheer coincidence, while indicating that the Socialist leaders are coming to investigate efforts to achieve democracy and the effects of the international campaign against Costa Rica.

The Costa Rican president said that he didn't know why U.S. President Reagan is not meeting with Nicaragua's Sandinist leaders, but, he noted, "Managua's policy toward the United States has been so aggressive that it reminds one of the first years of the Cuban revolution in its violent tone."

"I have not undertaken any commitments to the United States and Ronald Reagan that contradict Costa Rica's democratic principles."

As for Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana's visit, Luis Alberto Monge indicated that although he is coming on a private visit, he will be greeted at the airport and that Costa Rica is always ready to receive the Salvadoran president.

Finally, the Costa Rican president expressed support of any position intended to reduce tensions on the Central American isthmus.

Magana Arrival in San Jose

PA032137 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 2110 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana is arriving at the airport at this minute. President Magana left San Salvador for Costa Rica at 1305. Tonight he will meet with U.S. President Ronald Reagan. President Magana is accompanied by Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena, Planning Manuel Antonio Robel, Presidency Minister Francisco Jose Guerrero and Col Edmundo Palacio, chief of presidential general staff.

In San Salvador, the president was seen of at the Ilopango Military Airport by government officials and diplomatic representatives accredited in the country.

Guatemalan President Efraim Rios Montt left El Salvador this morning after a meeting last night with President Alvaro Magana, prior to his meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Gen Rios Montt's departure from El Salvador to Honduras was kept secret by the Salvadoran officials as well as by the Guatemalan Embassy in San Salvador.

President Alvaro Magana is being met at the Juan Santamaria International Airport by Costa Rican President Luis alberto Monge, even though this is a private visit. The two presidents will hold a short meeting and then the Salvadoran president will be transferred to a house where he will hold a press conference tonight.

This afternoon President Magana will hold a working meeting and at 2045 he will meet with President Reagan at the Cariaris Hotel. President Reagan will accompany President Magana to the entrance of the Cariaris Hotel at 2115. They will meet for approximately 30 or 40 minutes. After this meeting President Magana will hold a press conference, which we expect to begin at 2130.

Presidency Minister on Talks

PA041510 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1335 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Interview with Presidency Minister Fernando Berrocal Soto at Presidential House -- live]

[Excerpts] [Question] Fernando, with just 30 minutes to go before President Reagan's arrival here at the Presidential House, what is your message to the Costa Rican people?

[Answer] Every Costa Rican citizen, and not just those who are part of President Monge's government, are deeply satisfied and moved by the U.S. President's visit to our country. As President Monge said yesterday, this emotion is not caused just by the visit of the President of the world's most powerful nation. This is important, but basically it is the fact that we are being visited by a democratically elected President, elected in free elections in the world's most powerful nation by the free and sovereign will of his people.

[Question] Yesterday as we were broadcasting the reception for President Reagan, our editor in chief, (Espinoza), told our listeners that the greeting between the Presidents Reagan and Monge was not cold and diplomatic, as is customary when one chief of state visits another. Rather it was obvious that they embraced in a fraternal hug that went beyond the friendship between heads of state of two friendly countries. We noted that this was probably due to the fact that during his 7 months in office, Costa Rican President Monge has met with President Reagan on three occasions.

[Answer] Right. They have met three times and at the third meeting President Monge now has the opportunity to receive the U.S. President in the Presidential House, which is not just the house of the government, but the first house of every Costa Rican citizen. This is very emotional for President Monge, the fact that in his third meeting with President Reagan, both are in Costa Rica and both are meeting here at the Presidential House.

[Question] We understand that four subjects will be discussed at the talks, based on the letters sent by President Monge to President Reagan.

These refer to the Caribbean Basin, tax exemptions for U.S. enterprises investing in Costa Rica, and various aspects of trade between the two countries.

[Answer] President Monge did in fact during his trip submit an extensive and detailed document to President Reagan. Basically it deals with aid for the Caribbean Basin; basic reinforcement for development of a number of plans and programs for agricultural and economic activities in the northern sector of the country; recovery of our radio broadcasting sovereignty, which is a goal of the government and a subject which journalist Armando Vargas, the information adviser, has stressed with the support of the whole cabinet council; and U.S. support and backing for social compensation and economic adjustment. All this make one large package of bilateral aid which logically is one of the subjects to be discussed at the bilateral meeting today at the Presidential House.

[Question] What is the international political effect of President Reagan's visit?

[Answer] I believe Foreign Minister Fernando Volio was very clear in expressing the great importance of President Reagan's visit. Today's bilateral meeting agenda also includes an analysis of the Forum for Democracy and Peace -- on which the foreign minister has worked so hard -- to continue and strengthen the efforts initiated in San Jose, at a meeting in which a group of democratic countries of the area participated. Therefore, this will be another subject for discussion and Foreign Minister Fernando Volio will logically carry the weight of these talks.

[Answer] Thank you.

Monge Speech to Reagan

PA041800 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1557 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Speech by President Luis Alberto Monge to President Ronald Reagan; at the San Jose National Theater -- live]

[Text] President of the United States of America, Mr Ronald Reagan, fellow citizens, fellow citizens of Central America and the Caribbean, fellow citizens of Latin America, representatives of the diplomatic corps in our country.

The people of Costa Rica are delighted over the visit of the President of the United States of America, Mr Ronald Reagan. They sense the historic importance of including a visit to this small American nation on his tour. They feel that one of the most comforting meanings of his trip is his reaffirmed support for the struggle of the peoples to defend the freedom that they have, establish it where it has been denied, taken away or trampled.

Welcome and inspiring was his speech to the British Parliament in June 1982 when President Reagan said: We must be firm in our conviction that freedom is not the privilege of a fortunate few, but an inalienable and universal right of every human being.

The fact is that you, President Reagan, represent the most powerful nation. However, this is not the reason for the delight of our people. What moves and delights us about his presence is his being a freely elected President of a people with whom we share the same devotion, the same desire and the same love for freedom. Our compatriots see in President Reagan the envoy of a people whom we consider brothers due to our common and passionate love for freedom, rather than the political powers invested in him.

Chafing, friction and even confrontations have occurred throughout history between the United States of America and other nations of the continent, but every time the structures of power have wanted to or been able to faithfully interpret the true thoughts and sentiments of the American people, it was to embrace the most noble causes of humanity. With the full support of its people, the United States contributed with sacrifice and blood to eliminate the bloody and diabolical machinery of nazi-fascist totalitarianism. Often the American people have been able to permeate or filter through the negative factors of the power structures to take to the other peoples of the world loving demonstrations of solidarity.

This can occur only with a free people, who elect their rulers in peace and freedom and who can influence the decision-making which concerns and behooves them as a nation. This is not possible under despotism, regardless of the ideological symbol that assumes the power to determine the destiny of a people.

Both of us have the responsibility to govern under historical and geographic realities that are very different. They are the result of different historical processes. However, since both societies have in their favor the spiritual infrastructure of two peoples who love freedom and have faith in democracy, I consider it possible and appropriate to find points of agreement in thought and areas of solidarity in action for freedom, justice among men and nations and the precious good of peace.

In adhering to the historical imperative to further unite democratic forces of large, medium, small, rich and poor nations, it is fundamental to take into consideration the errors and lessons of the past. Let us go to the correct station to take the train that will take us to a future that is freer, more just and more peaceful. For those of us who have political responsibilities today, the correct stations are those of 1982 and 1983.

Prejudice, resentment, and the political traumas of the past are winds that blow backward, toward the stations of the beginning of the century and the 30's. Those who look for stations in the past are not only turning back, but going to meet fellow travelers who adhered to frozen and obsolete political theories.

You, President Reagan, and I as president of the Costa Rican people, faithful to the mandates we received from our peoples, are prepared to take the train at the correct station. For decades the Latin American peoples have been struggling for their economic and political liberation. The despotism of military and oligarchic cliques has blocked their paths to free election of their rulers and has plunged them into misery.

Costa Rica has often alone extended its solidarity to those peoples and faced political risks due to this conduct. The political forces of Marxism-Leninism have emerged on the political stage because the peoples face this secular oppression. They present themselves as defenders of the rights of people. They control the guerrillas against military despotism and encourage terrorism. When they achieve victory, they establish a ferocious despotism under a different ideological sign and thereby derail and frustrate the processes of democratic liberation.

A game of false alternatives has emerged. The threat of communist totalitarianism is answered with oligarchic and military dictatorship, in exchange for which communist dictatorship is offered. The people accept neither. The correct alternative to oligarchic and military despotism or to communist military despotism is authentic democracy, with free elections, pluralism and popular participation. It is necessary to organize a powerful movement that will promote this realistic and true alternative -- here, in the countries that already have political democracy and are trying to give it social and economic dimensions; here, in the countries that open sincere democratic processes; here, where we are struggling to win true democracy.

The alternative of democracy is also the only realistic path to search for and find peace. Only by guaranteeing respect for freedom and human dignity can we defeat violence and war. There is a secular violence from top to bottom which generates political and economic oppression. There is also a violence from bottom to top, guerrilla war and terrorism, which under the present historical circumstances is controlled by communism and which, when it is victorious, also imposes political and economic oppression. Both violences must and can be defeated by us with the powerful weapon of democracy.

That is the direction of President Reagan's proposal to the OAS on 24 February 1982 concerning the Caribbean Basin initiative. The same can be said about the world conference convoked in Washington 4-6 November 1982 on democracy and elections. Pointing in the same direction are the agreements of the San Jose conference of 4 October 1982, exactly 2 months ago and especially the establishment of the Forum for Democracy and Peace and the establishment of an advisory organization for the countries that wish to establish or improve their electoral systems in order to insure free and honest elections.

In the few months since I assumed the presidency, fulfilling the people's mandate bestowed upon me at the polls on 7 February of the present year, I have had the privilege and satisfaction of meeting and speaking with President Reagan on three different occasions and dates. I think no other Costa Rican president, since we became an independent nation on 1821, has been so greatly favored by the gallantry, understanding and solidarity of a ruler of the United States of America.

Not only the president and Government of Costa Rica, but also the people are deeply grateful, President Reagan, for that kind gesture we received as an expression of solidarity with the democratic faith of those of us who inhabit this small parcel of our America. In those three meetings, we exchanged views over a varied agenda related to the many problems affecting the two peoples we represent and other peoples of the American Continent and other parts of the world. We explored possibilities of cooperation and solidarity to meet those problems.

I explained the specific case of Costa Rica. We have not asked for military aid. We are the only democracy that unilaterally decided to disarm 33 years ago and proscribed the army as a permanent institution. We proclaim neutrality in the case of armed conflicts in the area. What we really need is support within the inter-American legal framework, in the face of actions from abroad against our sovereignty and democratic institutions. We are pleased to acknowledge that the President, the government and the labor movement of the United States have categorically expressed their support of Costa Rican democracy.

As to the antidemocratic forces active in our country, the government has the people's support using whatever means are imposed by circumstances, to prevent such forces from achieving their destabilizing objectives contrary to the interests of the Costa Rican people.

In order to stop the process of impoverishment, improve and stabilize our economy and fight unemployment, however, we urgently need economic and financial cooperation. Without it, we can neither carry out successfully our programs to increase production and exports, nor defeat misery and poverty.

We ask for economic cooperation now so that, God willing, we may never have to ask for military aid.

Fellow countrymen of Costa Rica, Central America and the Caribbean, fellow Americans, allow me to repeat the words of the apostle of Cuban freedom, Jose Marti, quoted by President Reagan in his already-mentioned message to the OAS on 24 February: Mankind is made up of two types of men, those who love and create and those who hate and destroy.

The President of the United States of America and the president of Costa Rica, alongside their peoples and loyal to their peoples, have firmly chosen the path of those who love and create. Thank you.

Monge 4 Dec Luncheon Toast

PA042158 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1810 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text of toast by President Luis Alberto Monge at luncheon for President Ronald Reagan -- read by announcer]

[Text] In the few hours that he has been with us, President Reagan and his large entourage have been able to confirm the Costa Rican people's feelings of friendship for the U.S. people and for him, as their representative.

The Costa Rican president need only listen to his people's hearts to find the path of affectionate communication with the peoples, to find the open path of affectionate communication with the U.S. people and with the citizen whom they elected by free vote to guide their destiny. President Reagan has been faithful to the feelings of affection and liberty that characterize his people in his understanding of and support for the deep-rooted democratic spirit of the Costa Rican people.

In the first 7 months of my mandate, we have met three times to reaffirm our broad areas of coexistence, fulfilling our commitments to our respective peoples.

Costa Rica has been a firm, democratic ally to the United States in Central America and the Caribbean, while other supporters that it had in the past have now acted to discredit its image. Costa Rica's constant stance in favor of democracy and against all despotism, regardless of its ideological origin, gives an extraordinary moral force to this small country, which has no army. We believe that we should have merited greater and more enduring support from the American democracy, for it is true that relations with our country have been respectful, without the incidents and accidents that have occurred with other sister countries.

This explains, in historical terms, why the collective Costa Rican conscience will not permit anti-Americanist, or anti-U.S. trauma in Costa Rica. Judging by the official visits to Costa Rica by U.S. Presidents, we believe that the significance of this alliance has not been justly assessed.

In truth, in terms of official visits by U.S. Presidents, we can only list 3 in the 161 years of Costa Rica's independent life. During the second administration of President Cleto Gonzalez Viquez, 1928-1932, it was President Hoover; President Kennedy came in 1963, during Francisco J. Orlich's administration; and now you, President Reagan, honor me with your visit at the outset of my term, when we face serious threats to liberty and peace in the Central American and Caribbean region.

President Reagan, I wish to interpret your visit as the beginning of a just appraisal of the great moral force that Costa Rica represents, though it is a small, poor country without an army, struggling for peace and liberty. I wish to be sure that the urgent need for adequate cooperation in overcoming the crisis and defeating poverty has been comprehended.

President Reagan, you are among friends, who are ready to cooperate in any action in favor of liberty, justice and peace.

New Extradition Treaty Signed

PA042036 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] A new extradition treaty between Costa Rica and the United States of America was signed this morning. Justice Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez Gutierrez said that the treaty which had been in force until this morning was outdated, but that some of its articles were retained.

Costa Rica insisted that it will not extradite Costa Rican citizens, but the United States will extradite U.S. citizens in certain cases. In an explanation of the treaty, Gutierrez Gutierrez also said that extradition will not be considered when the individual involved faces a death sentence. In addition, extradition will not be considered if the individual is going to be tried for crimes other than those which warranted his extradition.

Monge, After Reagan Departure

PA042107 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 2018 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Interview with President Luis Alberto Monge by several unidentified newsmen at the Juan Santamaria Airport in San Jose after President Ronald Reagan's departure for Honduras--live]

[Text] [Question] Did you discuss any specific subject during your meeting with the U.S. President for 15 minutes? It has been said that you discussed the Central American political situation, is this true?

[Answer] In that conversation we returned to some of the subjects we have previously discussed. We also discussed some of these subjects at the luncheon table. I am pleased that we have been able to maintain a very open communication with the U.S. President and that he is actively and sincerely interested in the political events of our countries, particularly Costa Rica. We were surprised by all the information that President Reagan has on the Central American situation and the history and traditions of Costa Rican democracy.

[Question] Are there plans to establish a U.S. military base in our country?

[Answer] President Reagan did not request this. He knew that this was not the object of his visit and that due to our people's tradition, I would not have been able to agree to having bases in our country.

[Question] Regarding the speech on the need for disarmament in Central America and the withdrawal of (?foreign) troops and military advisers from the region, how do you think this proposal by the U.S. President can begin to be implemented?

[Answer] I understand that the United States had had to send advisers due to the presence of thousands of military and intelligence advisers from the communist countries. We already know that the Central America area is full of Bulgarians, (?Hungarians), Czechoslovaks, Poles and Russians at this time. I understand his message as saying that the United States is ready to withdraw all the advisers if the communists withdraw their army of advisers in Central America.

[Question] In your speech you insisted on economic aid. What did you specifically achieve in the short term in this field?

[Answer] There is some aid that has already arrived while we have agreed on other aid. This aid will be coming in the next few weeks and months. There are other very important expectations which I would rather not announce for the time being.

Magana 'Satisfied' With Meeting

PA041710 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1521 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] San Jose, 4 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana has returned to his country "satisfied" after his 45-minute visit here with U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Last night Magana expressed to Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge "his sincere gratitude" for having had the opportunity to meet with Reagan in San Jose.

The Salvadoran president held a long news conference with local and foreign journalists on subjects related to his country and Central America. On what the area considers El Salvador's greatest problem, the guerrilla war, Magana said that the present is an important stage, but he refused to give details for obvious reasons. When he was asked whether the subversives are receiving aid from Nicaragua, Magana replied: "They are not receiving it from Guatemala or Honduras, and much less from Costa Rica..." He then explained the efforts being made by his government on human rights and pacification, stating that fewer and fewer lives are lost as times goes on, in spite of the fact that the opposition forces do not want to accept a pacification process because democracy is not in their interest.

Regarding the results of his talks with President Ronald Reagan, he said that the considers these very positive, explaining that he asked for nothing, because his mission in Costa Rica was not to ask for anything but to exchange views with his U.S. colleague on important matter that interest both nations.

Finance Ministry Adviser on Talks

PA041931 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1655 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Interview with Finance Ministry adviser Rodolfo Silva; at the San Jose Presidential Palace -- live]

[Text] [Question] Can you give us a preliminary report on the issues discussed this morning?

[Answer] We heard very encouraging words from President Reagan and the secretaries of state and the treasury, indicating their willingness to help the country as much as possible and to exhort U.S. commercial banks to continue working with Costa Rica as under normal conditions. We explained to them that we are handling our external debt most carefully; that Costa Rica will pay its debt, but not all, as originally established. I think we have come to an understanding on that.

[Question] Then the negotiations have been positive in opening the way to our objectives?

[Answer] I would say that the contacts have been most positive. They have offered financial and economic support to the government and promised to talk with U.S. banks to be less intransigent with us.

[Question] Thank you, very much, Dr Rodolfo Silva.

Finance, Security Ministers on Talks

PA050331 Paris AFP in Spanish 2048 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Excerpts] San Jose, 4 Dec (AFP) -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan announced the U.S. intention to support the Costa Rican Government's efforts to improve its failing economy; however, no particular type of special aid was specified.

U.S. and Costa Rican authorities met this morning headed by their respective presidents to also analyze aspects "related to security and subversive actions," some of the participants told AFP.

Finance Minister Federico Vargas told AFP that in the meeting headed by the respective presidents, the U.S. participants "committed themselves to intercede, within their possibilities, with the commercial banks with which Costa Rica plans to renegotiate its \$1.6 million debt. He also said that both Reagan and his team committed themselves to participating as interlocutors with the Paris Club where Costa Rica is renegotiating its bilateral debt, possibly beginning in January.

Vargas said that the U.S. officials were impressed by the austerity and sacrifice demonstrated by Costa Rica in its attempt to bring about a contingency agreement with the IMF. The agreement will be approved in the coming days. Regarding security aspects discussed in the meeting, Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano told AFP that "the Americans are aware that Costa Rica does not want to strengthen its security mechanisms but that it does need economic assistance."

Finally, the security minister said that during the meeting "the concept that Costa Rica does not want an army was reinforced and also the concept that Costa Rica depends on the system of international law."

Reagan and his main aides met with President Monge and part of his cabinet at the Presidential House for 35 minutes prior to which the presidents had held a 55-minute private meeting.

Additional Remarks

PA050408 Paris AFP in English 0345 GMT 5 Dec 82

[Excerpts] San Pedro Sula, Honduras, Dec 4 (AFP) -- Ronald Reagan ended his four-nation Latin American tour today with talks on stability in Central America and vague promises of U.S. economic aid -- the same themes he had discussed through much of the second foreign trip he has taken as President.

Costa Rican President Monge denied reports that Mr Reagan had sought increased military efforts in Costa Rica to combat Nicaragua's Sandinist regime. Mr Monge said they stressed Costa Rican economic problems. But the foreign minister, Fernando Volio, said Mr Reagan promised to help combat what he called a Nicaraguan "radio and television invasion" of northern Costa Rica. Mr Volio, speaking at a news conference after Mr Reagan left for Honduras, said: "We must counteract this offensive, because the northern zone of Costa Rica is like an occupied zone and we want to recover it."

Volio on Economic Aid

PA051441 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1330 GMT 5 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Fernando Volio has announced that the country's northern region will be developed with U.S. aid.

This is another of the agreements reached with the U.S. mission headed by President Ronald Reagan, the minister said during a news conference at the conclusion of the visit by the U.S. Chief of State.

The North Americans will help us develop the agricultural and livestock system in the country's northern region, Volio said.

According to Volio, Reagan fully supported the Forum for Peace and Democracy. There was also agreement on an accord with the Inter-American Human Rights Institute to implement the plan calling for advice on free elections.

Volio on Deputy's Protest

PA041739 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1647 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Statement by Foreign Minister Fernando Volio at the San Jose Presidential Palace -- live]

[Text] We go overboard -- any peasant, any worker, anyone in Costa Rica goes overboard -- to please anyone arriving at their home, and we save any ill feeling for later, but not for when the visitor is in our home.

I believe that what Deputy Sergio Erick Ardon has done goes against the feelings of the Costa Rican people, who are courteous, who know how to respect others' ideas. This is another demonstration that Marxism-Leninism is intolerant. It does not respect others' opinions. In a democracy one has to get used to hearing things one does not like. There is a suitable moment. But this was a ceremony. He was invited. He could have chosen not to attend. He was not forced to go. He should have waited for another moment. He has a rostrum in the Legislative Assembly. He has the country's news media available. You know that you would give your rostrum to Deputy Sergio Erick Ardon as many times as he wants it.

Therefore, he was out of tune. However, the reaction of the audience was a demonstration of what the people of Costa Rica really feel.

Deputy on Interruption of Reagan Speech

PA042000 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1731 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] Communist Deputy Architect Sergio Erick Ardon [member of the Peoples Revolutionary Movement, MRP] used the National Theater and the Costa Rican Government's official protocol ceremony for its guest, President Ronald Reagan, to carry off a spectacular scheme in international political propaganda, and the truth is that he was quite successful. From the USSR's viewpoint, it was a smashing success. All the international press dispatches are now highlighting his action.

In Ardon's opinion U.S. policy is harming the interests of the Central American nations. He termed Reagan's response to his intervention at the National Theater an old ploy, and said that his intervention was necessary, although he admitted that he disrupted protocol. Here is his statement to reporters:

[Begin recording] In the first place we believe that U.S. policy for the Central American area is incorrect and that it is harming the interests of the Central American peoples. We believe that his speech was not a sincere speech.

He proposed good things, but in practice it will be another story. We also said that Costa Rica is a Central American country. We inherited a number of principles from our forefathers which we must begin to uphold once again: the principles of Central American solidarity and fraternity. We believe that the U.S. Government's policy at this time, Reagan's policy, is contrary to the people's interests.

Its objectives are to strengthen the Salvadoran and Guatemalan dictatorial regimes, to convert it into a sort of U.S. gendarme in the area -- and to hurt and isolate Nicaragua, hurting it militarily and economically. In Costa Rica itself, the U.S. Government defends an economic policy -- for example the IMF policy -- which not only does not correspond to our people's interests but which also winds up infringing on our national sovereignty in one way or the other.

[Question] Did you manage to read the entire document?

[Answer] Yes, in about 3 minutes.

[Question] What do you think about a country where things like this can be done?

[Answer] I think that it is good to do things like this; it had to be done.

[Question] Don't you think you disrupted protocol, since a statement by you was not on the program?

[Answer] Yes, but I did not come here subject to any protocol.

[Question] What did you think about President Reagan's reply?

[Answer] I think it is the only response he could have given. Whenever one tries to say something then the historic chant of communism is employed as a manner of converting what is being said into something that no one will listen to. I think this is an old ploy. That is all that he did. This is what is always done. [end recording]

Anti-Reagan Demonstrators March

PA041316 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1254 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] A group of approximately 100 persons marched last night close to the main post office building in San Jose to protest the visit by U.S. President Ronald Reagan to Costa Rica. The peaceful demonstration soon turned into a verbal war between the anti-U.S. protesters and other citizens who reprimanded them. However, we have to stress the courage shown by the demonstrators because they were outnumbered five to one by the persons who approved the visit by the U.S. President.

Bags, paper objects, oranges, eggs and other medium-sized objects were thrown at the demonstrators but physical assaults were averted because the authorities kept a close watch on the situation.

Deputies' Message on Economy

PA031444 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Text] Deputies from various parties represented in the Legislative Assembly have sent a message to President Ronald Reagan telling him about some of the factors that have contributed to the deep economic crisis affecting Costa Rica.

The crisis has internal and external causes: One of the external causes is the very unjust international trade situation, the deputies state in their message. We are forced into paying very high prices for products manufactured in industrialized countries, while very low prices are paid for our products, the legislators affirm.

There is also a grave political crisis in Central America, and the social differences and the situation of oppression and extreme poverty that most of our people have endured for centuries is the root of this crisis, they say.

The meeting that U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge will hold in our country represents a meeting of two authentic democracies. This statement has been made by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez. He said that during this meeting, the two presidents will discuss peace, democracy and the economic and social development of their two nations.

The majority of the Costa Rican people see Reagan's presence in Costa Rica as an expression of appreciation for a historic democracy, the foreign minister said. Volio said that the Costa Rican Government and people reject statements made by communist leaders, such as Pascal Allende, about President Ronald Reagan's visit. Such statements are offensive to President Monge and the people and undoubtedly are part of a campaign to discredit and destabilize our country, Volio said.

The Costa Rican foreign minister said that Jose Rafael Cordero, former minister of the presidency, has made remarks echoing insane statements by communist leaders who are trying to discredit Costa Rica with silly charges.

Yesterday afternoon the Council of Peace and Solidarity [Consejo de Paz y Solidaridad] picketed in Central Park to protest Reagan's visit to our country today. This communist picketing has been an effort to smear Reagan's visit.

Several U.S. flags were burned, and slogans against U.S. intervention in Central America and for peace in the region were shouted. The speakers at this demonstration were (Hugo Dias), president of the Council of Peace and Solidarity; Rodrigo Urena, secretary general of the United Workers Federation; and (Alvaro Morales), treasurer of the National Association of Public Employees.

EL SALVADOR

MAGANA, RIOS MONTT ISSUE JOINT DECLARATION

PA042056 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] Yesterday the presidents of El Salvador and Guatemala, Alvaro Magana and Efraim Rios Montt, signed in San Salvador a joint declaration openly condemning the terrorism affecting Central America. They also agreed that it is necessary to create incentives for the Central American Common Market.

The declaration states that the presidents of El Salvador and Guatemala agreed on their objective to revitalize democratic institutions, to rescue the people's fundamental values and national dignity and to secure for them a future of peace, well-being and progress.

The two presidents exchanged information about the measures they have taken to reach their goals and about the achievements they have made. The presidents stated that in order to give the people good living conditions, it is necessary to continue struggling tirelessly against subversion and for the programs of economic, social and political reforms.

They also agreed that in this effort for national survival, it is necessary to have the participation and sacrifice of all sectors of their countries.

The presidents also discussed the area situation and their determination to prevent Central America from being used as a focus of unrest that would jeopardize peace and security in the area and that could have unforeseeable consequences, the joint declaration adds.

The declaration states: In this serious context, and under this threatening outlook, the two presidents reiterated their belief that a frank, sincere and direct dialogue between the governments of the area is the best way to eliminate whatever difference may exist. The two presidents urged the other countries of the area to behave in accordance with international law, especially with regard to the principle of mutual respect and nonintervention in the domestic or foreign affairs of other states. Other area countries are also urged to comply with the principle of the peaceful solution of international disputes as a fundamental premise in relations between governments.

The presidents admitted that there are political factors that are negatively and dangerously influencing regional problems and that some of these factors are the arms buildups that are out of proportion with the real defense needs of a state and arms trafficking aimed at fueling the armed struggle of subversive elements and terrorism supported by foreign forces. Political fanaticism and its deviations are attacks on de jure states, the fundamental basis of all Christian, civilized and democratic societies.

Magana and Rios Montt reiterated their aim to respect, promote and defend human rights as well as humankind's fundamental rights as inherent rights and basic principles at both the domestic and foreign levels.

MAGANA TO COSTA RICA, RIOS MONTT TO HONDURAS

PA032022 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1959 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Text] San Salvador, 3 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana left for Costa Rica at 1305 (1905 GMT) today to meet with U.S. President Ronald Reagan this evening.

President Magana is accompanied by Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena, Planning Minister Manuel Antonio Robles, Presidency Minister Francisco Jose Guerrero and Col Edmundo Palacios, chief of the presidential staff.

The Salvadoran president was seen off at the Ilopango Military Airport by government officials and diplomatic representatives accredited to El Salvador.

Guatemalan President Gen Efraim Rios Montt left El Salvador this morning, after meeting with Magana last night. He will meet with U.S. President Ronald Reagan tomorrow. Rios Montt's departure from El Salvador to Honduras was kept secret by both the Salvadoran authorities and the Guatemalan Embassy in this capital.

VENCEREMOS ON 'FAILURE' OF REAGAN VISIT

PA061428 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 5 Dec 82

[Station Commentary]

[Text] In Costa Rica, hundreds of signs painted on the walls read: 1856 William Walker, 1982 Ronald Reagan. They thus expressed our people's feelings in the face of a warmongering and interventionist visit. Before Reagan had even set his bloodied boot in Latin America, our peoples were already expressing their repudiation in myriad ways--staging demonstrations, seizing radio stations, staging marches and issuing pronouncements. Reagan is coming to Latin America to improve his battered image after the Malvinas incident, where he showed his true colors as well as his contempt for our countries, which are currently struggling for their sovereignty and independence.

According to the media, Reagan's trip has failed completely, since he has failed to achieve his objectives. It couldn't have been any other way, since the history of imperialist aggression did not begin in the Malvinas. The Yankee Marines and their interventionist landings have already left tracks that our peoples will never forget.

The president of Brazil dissented with Reagan's views on the Central American situation, reaffirming our people's right to self-determination and to nonintervention and mentioning the efforts on behalf of peace made by both Mexico and Venezuela. In his speech, the Colombian president dashed Reagan's hopes of finding support for his belligerent Central American policy. Instead, the Colombian president referred to dialogue as the means of solving the Salvadoran conflict.

Reagan bitterly swallowed his defeat amid protest demonstrations and our peoples' manifestations in Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica and Honduras. He had initially announced that he would visit the hemisphere's most representative democracies, but he did not dare set foot in Venezuela, aware of the fact that there he would not receive even mild support for his interventionist intentions. A few hours ago, in the National Theater of Costa Rica, a Costa Rican deputy got up in front of Reagan to tell him that our peoples do not kneel before any arrogant empire. According to Reagan, he has come to democratize the continent, yet he is meeting behind closed doors with one of the worst criminals of our times, Guatemalan dictator Rios Montt, slayer of Indians and torturer of students, who will receive more weapons from Reagan to continue the genocide. This is how Reagan democratizes the hemisphere -- by arming the Pinochets, the Stroessners, the Somozists and the people like General Alvarez, his most recent acquisition for his interventionist plans.

Mr Reagan is very nice, but his wrinkled cowboy's smile faded when a newsman asked him today whether it was true, as THE NEW YORK TIMES has charged, that there are 150 CIA agents in Honduras working with the Somozist guardsmen to destabilize the Nicaraguan revolution. According to Reagan, he could not answer this question because it concerned the U.S. national security. Our peace, our right to determine our future, is of no consequence to Reagan; what matters to him is his own interests. Reagan is still cynical enough to try to revive the Rio de Janeiro treaty; Reagan is cynical enough to speak of Latin American self-defense. The shark of the Malvinas dares talk about collective security.

The purpose of Reagan's visit, however, is to organize a political platform that endorses his military intervention in Central America. Reagan has come visiting at a time when the criminal dictatorships in Guatemala and El Salvador are being rocked by the people's advance. Reagan thinks he can stop this advance by delivering more weapons to the Salvadoran dictatorship, more weapons to the Guatemalan dictatorship, more weapons to Honduras so it can attack neighboring countries.

Reagan's visit is a provocation, an act of aggression against peace at a time when all over the world governments and countries -- and the Salvadoran people themselves -- are calling for peace and for a political solution to the conflict.

Reagan's artistic tour has definitely failed. The historic scars left by the imperialist aggressions have not been erased. We are still bleeding, but we have not lost our dignity as a people. Latin America today reasserts that it will act as a single people, as a single army of patriots determined to defeat any aggression by Reagan anywhere in the hemisphere. It will be an army of patriots determined to defend the sovereignty of Bolivar's great homeland. If Reagan unleashes aggression, our people will once again defeat the William Walker of the 20th century.

GUATEMALARIOS MONTT RETURNS 'UNEXPECTEDLY' FROM EL SALVADOR

PA042310 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] It was learned today that Gen Efraín Ríos Montt returned to Guatemala from San Salvador, which was considered unexpected. Ríos Montt was reportedly to be in the port of Santo Tomás de Castilla, on Guatemala's Atlantic Coast, on the eve of his meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan, which is scheduled for tomorrow in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. Ríos Montt was originally supposed to travel directly from San Salvador to Honduras. Thus, his brief return to Guatemala in the interim even surprised some government circles.

Equally unexpectedly, other members of the official Guatemalan delegation arrived in Guatemala City, including Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola and Gonzalo Asturias Montenegro, public relations secretary of the presidency. They were at the National Palace today, contrary to plans announced earlier this week.

PRESIDENT TO DELIVER VARIOUS DOCUMENTS TO REAGAN

PA042216 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] According to reports received in the last few hours, all of the ministers of state were asked to prepare a report on the work that they have accomplished since they assumed their posts. These reports were to be included among the documents that Guatemalan President Efraín Ríos Montt will present to U.S. President Ronald Reagan during their meeting in San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

A document containing plans to declare 1983 a year of commitment in Guatemala will also be delivered to Reagan.

It was learned that this document is considered by government authorities to be one of the most important of those that will be given to President Reagan. On the basis of this document, government officials and public employees have pledged to comply with three basic points: not to steal, to lie or to abuse power.

ANTI-NICARAGUAN BASIS OF REAGAN TRIP SCORED

PA032027 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Editorial written by "El Independiente" news program director (Félix Loarca Guzmán): "State Adviser Says Reagan Is Coming To Cook up the Overthrow of the Nicaraguan Government"]

[Text] (Cesar Augusto Toledo Penate), State Council representative of the United Revolutionary Front [FUR] founded by Manuel Colom Argueta, made an important statement yesterday regarding the visit to Central America by former U.S. movie actor Ronald Reagan, who has been turned into President of the United States as a result of the blindness and error of the U.S. people.

(Toledo Penate) has said that the U.S. President is coming to cook up the overthrow of the revolutionary government of Nicaragua which 3 years ago seized power after a bloody war against one of the most somber dictatorships of America, the dictatorship of the Somoza family, which ruled that piece of Central American territory for over 40 years as if it were its private farm.

This is not the first time in recent days that we have heard charges that Reagan's visit to Central America could be part of a plan to destabilize the Nicaraguan regime, since it does not follow the tune of the U.S. orchestra.

Nicaragua's ambassador to Guatemala, Dr Orlando Rojas Morales, has characterized Reagan's presence in Central America as the visit of a proconsul. He noted that the visit is part of a plot to harm his country's government. The Nicaraguan diplomat predicted, however, that the visit by the U.S. President will fail.

It is no secret to anyone in Latin America that since the arrival of the Reagan administration in the United States, alarming reports have spread -- creating uncertainty -- about the danger of a regionalized war [words indistinct] and bulwark of communism, a persecuted church, lack of freedom of expression and of the press and genocide against the Miskitos.

All these charges are directed toward a single objective: destabilization of the Nicaraguan regime, which is seen as the black sheep in the Central American and Caribbean flock. This is an ideological and political offensive to hide clearly interventionist operations, operations such as that of 1954 in Guatemala, when the government of Col Jacobo Arbenz Guzman was overthrown. That government was accused of being communist, although history in due time admitted that that government was clearly nationalistic.

The Arbenz government was overthrown as a result of intervention encouraged by the government of the cynical and notorious John Foster Dulles, U.S. secretary of state in those days. The invasion came from Honduras with the backing of the U.S. Government and the financial aid of powerful U.S. companies.

History brings fresh to the minds of the Latin American people the role of Cain that Honduras has played in Central America.

What is the objective of the big honeymoon between the current U.S. Government and the regime headed by Dr. Roberto Suazo Cordova? The Institute of Political Studies for Latin America and Africa [Instituto de Estudios Políticos Para America Latina y Africa], headquartered in Madrid, Spain, said recently that this could be a plan to turn Honduras into an enclave to again subject Central America to U.S. strategic, political and economic interests.

This is the sad modern history of colonialism and of the domination of the big countries over the smaller -- or, in the words of former President Juan Jose Arevalo, this is the fable of the shark and the sardines.

HONDURAS

GUATEMALAN PRESIDENT RIOS MONTT ARRIVES

PA041748 Paris AFP in Spanish 1741 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Excerpts] San Pedro Sula, Honduras, 4 Dec (AFP) -- Guatemalan President Gen Efraín Ríos Montt arrived today at 1115 (1715 GMT) at the San Pedro Sula airport in Honduras, to meet this afternoon with U.S. President Ronald Reagan. General Ríos Montt was welcomed at the airport by Honduran President Roberto Suazo, with whom he will meet before they each meet separately with Reagan this afternoon. Ríos Montt will return to Guatemala today.

PRESIDENT SUAZO REPORTS ON TALKS WITH REAGAN

PAO42356 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2303 GMT 4 Dec 82

["Report to the nation" delivered by President Roberto Suazo Cordova on the results of talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan, at the press room of the Armando Escalon Air Force Base in San Pedro Sula -- live]

[Text] First of all, let me express the greatest satisfaction of the Honduran people and government at U.S. President Ronald Reagan's visit to our country. President Reagan has arrived in our country at a time when our democratic foundations make our fields flower with new hope for peace, justice and freedom. In this context, I have told President Reagan that his presence in Honduras comes at a time when the tree of democratic institutionalism is being threatened by a grave economic crisis and growing social expectations.

This historic visit takes place at a dramatic time, while Central America is seeking to rediscover its lost equilibrium and to reestablish the terms of regional security. In this context, President Reagan's presence in our country signifies the clearest and most determined support for our democratic process, for the strengthening of our institutionalism, for our effort to promote economic and social development and for our permanent devotion to the cause of peace among nations.

Today, we held talks with the U.S. President that were inspired by our deepest desire for a destiny of overall progress for Honduras and for a climate of peaceful coexistence, based on mutual respect, among the states of Central America.

The spirit of cordiality and frankness that guided our talks is an eloquent testimony to the fraternal ties of friendship that link our two countries, which should be strengthened, both now and in future, through joint cooperative action, without reticence, and through genuine support for the existence of the democratic institutions that the Honduran people have been able to construct through free and sovereign determination, with stoicism, optimism, patience and hope.

Since my visit to the White House, a little over 4 months ago, important events have taken place in Honduras that are linked to my government's efforts to promote democracy, peace and cooperation in development, as I told President Reagan today.

I told him that our democratic process is in the process of consolidation, but that, as this has been taking place, there has also been an increase in the threats against our representative institutions and our democracy, as a way of life and a system of government. This is why we believe that if our political democracy is to acquire fullness and is to be translated into effective economic and social democracy, we must have the instruments that will contribute to that objective, given that a climate of solid and lasting political stability is required for increasing actions in economic and social development.

I have reaffirmed to President Reagan that on electing us as their rulers, the Honduran people did so with deep expectations of a better future and that, if actions are not taken that lead to the realization of our people's aspirations, a situation of collective frustration might take shape, with unforeseeable consequences and be easily manipulated by those who advocate violence and anarchy as desperate methods of achieving political objectives. This would be to the detriment of our democratic and constitutional regime and would mean serious danger to our political stability, regional security and the peaceful solution of the various problems that our people are confronting.

As I told President Reagan, even though we have made some significant advances, we need immediate action to satisfy the expectations that have arisen within the Honduran people's conscience. It is in view of this that we believe that only as immediate solutions are found can medium and long-term solutions be gradually found as well. For this purpose, we must have the determined cooperation of friendly nations like the United States of America, which share with us the ideals of democracy, peace and cooperation for development.

President Reagan has shared these concerns and objectives with me. We have analyzed Central America's problems with President Reagan and we fully agree that a policy in favor of peace must be strengthened, as the most adequate way to advance firmly on the path of progress, on the basis of such essential principles as mutual respect among states, nonintervention and the self-determination of peoples.

President Reagan has reiterated his support for our struggles for peace and for our proposal for peace in Central America. As I told him this afternoon, my government is willing to continue to promote this proposal with a persevering effort and with the conviction that it is an overall and regional initiative that assists in the search for appropriate solutions to domestic, bilateral and multilateral problems.

Within the fraternal spirit characterizing our talks, I told President Reagan that Honduras feels honored to receive him because of all of the lofty and positive values that the United States represents and that he, as the ruler of that great country, so faithfully interprets.

That is why this occasion has been propitious, because in such fateful moments, as we agreed with President Reagan, we can strengthen solidarity between our peoples and render the cooperation between our governments more realistic and because, respecting our particular interests and national identities, our community of ideals can find its expression in democracy and peace.

Mr President, I once again wish to recall my fruitful visit to Washington in July, in response to your cordial invitation, and to reiterate to you that we in Honduras are also building a republic that has deep historical roots and that is worthy of our present and future, as you did more than 2 centuries ago, and to note that the important thing now -- indeed, our most fervent desire -- is to conserve and strengthen it, so that we may ensure the increasing validity of our principles and ideals, which are based on a clear concept of human solidarity.

Welcome to Honduras, Mr President, and may you take from our land the best memories and proof of our fervent and respectful friendship.

SUAZO 'VERY PLEASED' WITH REAGAN VISIT

PA051943 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1749 GMT 5 Dec 82

[Text] San Pedro Sula (Honduras), 5 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova has declared that he is "very pleased" with the results of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's 2 and 1/2-hour visit to this city. The Honduran president did not go into details, but promised local and foreign journalists that his government will "soon release an extensive communique with specific details on what was discussed and what was obtained." Unofficially it had been learned that the Honduran Government would request aid to make up a 1983 budget deficit of between \$200 million and \$300 million.

On this subject Presidency Secretary Carlos Flores Facusse said that "we gave Reagan a long document on economic necessities and other matters that define our overall policy." The official said that "the U.S. President promised to thoroughly study the document and to reply accordingly to the requests." Carlos Flores also refused to give details of what the document contains. The Honduran secretary said that in political terms "Reagan's visit represented support for democratic government and free enterprise." Carlos Flores defined the Honduran Government as one "of the most solid Ibero-American democracies, and it received backing with the U.S. President's visit." He said that "the Honduran people are now making a very great effort to implement participatory pluralism at all levels of public life." Regarding Reagan's decision to visit only two Central American nations but to speak with four presidents, he said that "this is a sign that Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Guatemala should have closer relations and walk a democratic path."

Carlos Flores and the Honduran president both said with satisfaction that "Guatemala will take the democratic path next year." Suazo Cordova said that he received the news from the Guatemalan president during a private meeting of several hours held prior to their meetings with Reagan.

GUATEMALA'S RIOS MONTT ON REAGAN MEETING

PA050052 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 0005 GMT 5 Dec 82

[Statement made by Guatemalan President Rios Montt following his meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan at the Armando Escalon Air Force Base in San Pedro, Sula --live]

[Text] I came to San Pedro Sula at the invitation of U.S. President Ronald Reagan. We talked with him for 45 minutes, within a framework of fraternal friendship and in accordance with the principles of international law and in faithful and respectful fulfillment of these principles. In a cordial dialogue, I told the U.S. President about the problems in helping us to comprehend and solve these problems, with the assurance that all of the Guatemalan people are seeking their true identity, without selfishness, indifference or ambition.

I want to state that I came to this meeting with the conviction that this dialogue will contribute, without the delay produced by dazzling solutions, to a better understanding of our fellow citizens, so that the country's true image can become better known and so that truth can prevail over lies. We agree with President Reagan on the need to achieve and maintain democratization, as it is the only path by which our people may attain complete happiness. However, this democratization must be understood as an absolute form of respect among all citizens, without the existence of groups who, by abusing their positions, corrupt the people, deceiving them or depriving them of their freedom.

I gave President Reagan a complete accounting of the reasons why the Guatemalan Army assumed power on 23 March 1982 and of the ethical principles that my government has imposed upon itself -- that it will not lie, not steal and not abuse power -- in order to cleanse Guatemala, which, unfortunately, was rapidly falling into a system of deception, corruption and injustice. We explained to President Reagan how and what Guatemala is and what we all expect from our country.

We feel satisfied with the concern that he has shown about our future. With full assurance that our independence, sovereignty, history and desires, will be respected, the United States will give us its fullest cooperation so that our people may advance on the path of democracy and prosperity.

We are pleased to accept Mr Reagan's offer and desire to work together as partners in achieving the dreams that we share and in reinforcing our democratic bonds, promoting the sacred cause of peace and stimulating new economic growth and opportunities in the region.

RIOS MONTT 4 DECEMBER PRESS CONFERENCE

PA051730 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1257 GMT 5 Dec 82

[News conference granted by Guatemalan President Efraim Rios Montt on 4 December in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, after meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Rios Montt] First, I want to express my pleasure at being here. I wish to excuse myself for being late. I was supposed to be here at 2030, but I was delayed. I also thank you for being here. I want to say that I am here in this marvelous country at the joint invitation of the president of Honduras and the President of the United States. I came here not only to consolidate our friendship, but also to reaffirm our desire to maintain that friendship. I believe that we all know that friends serve, and that friends do not compromise friends. Therefore, we come here in this sense, to express our friendship, to express our support and to say that we are a different country.

We are a different country because the international press specialized in misinformation has said that great crimes are being committed in Guatemala. The greatest crime [crimen] being committed right now is to recognize that 65 percent of our population are Indians, that they are in the majority in Guatemala. This great crime we recognize publicly; the communists do not want to recognize it, but rather use the conditions of hunger, disease, poverty and ignorance to subjugate them further. Today we are exalting them, giving them the dignity of being citizens and men, and we are recognizing that during the past 500 years the governments in office neglected the people.

Therefore, we are confessing [confesando] that something new is happening in Guatemala. First, we are recognizing that we are different country. Second, overall strategies always seek places to test their strength; not only in the economic, political and social fields, but their strength itself, as a force. Very probably the powers, making use of their devices, have decided to turn Central America into another field of operations. Guatemala is not part of this, and Guatemala is not participating in an international experiment. Guatemala wants to consolidate itself. Therefore, Guatemala is different. We wish to be Guatemala.

I am very pleased to have powerful neighbors, neighbors without problems or neighbors with their own particular and personal problems. We have countries to the north and to the west [as heard]; wonderful neighbors. We love them and respect them as friends. However, we are a different country. We are 65 percent Indians who, we are ashamed to admit, wanted to be democratic in the style of the Latin civilization, the Roman type, the French type, the German type; I might even say a North American type or a Russian type. [sentence as heard]

However, in Guatemala we are different. We are 65 percent Indian and the rest are Latins, Mestizos, different people.

We do not have the philosophical concept; we know the doctrine, but the reality is alien to us. [sentence has heard] Therefore, we are a different country. We have differences.

I wish to express my greetings through your information media, my admiration and respect for your readers, and basically, in the name of Guatemala and for Guatemala, my greetings. But please let us be ourselves. Please, we do not want to compare ourselves with any of the large powers around us. We are a different people. Let us be. Help us to be. There are victories and there are defeats. We want the greatest victory: We want to be ourselves, to be what we can be. We do not want to be what the world wants us to be. We want to be a different people. We want to be Guatemala.

My respect and my admiration for all of you. I am at your service.

[Question] Your government, like the previous ones, has been accused of violating human rights. A serious charge was recently made in New York to the effect that the Guatemalan Army is exterminating the peasants. Certain local news media realize that, like Honduras, Guatemala is the victim of a campaign that spreads misinformation -- a smear campaign, as it is called in our country. What are you currently doing to counteract this campaign, and is there any truth to the charges that massacres are being committed and human rights are being violated?

[Answer] If one is to maintain a concept of government, one must abide by certain principles that lift up the government. For instance, I am a ruler of men, but to be a ruler of men I must give dignity to my people; I want to see myself in my people, and I want to feel myself in them. As a result of this conviction, the first thing that I must exalt is my people's dignity. Basically, I must not trample the moral and human principles of my people. I have no money, or foreign currency or the capacity to counteract this misinformation. However, I have faith in God -- I have great faith in God -- and he will take care of everything, because the very lies that they make up, are hitting them in the face. They are making totally absurd charges, which they realize are scaring the people.

Listen: Only recently the Council of Churches, I think it was, released a report. Its members told us: Well, we can see that there has really been a change; a change has taken place. This is what the Council of Churches said in Guatemala. However, in Washington, where they are well paid, they said: No, not there; the massacres have continued there. What massacres? In any event, this is a very serious problem. This is why I have said before that although we need freedom of the press, it is even more important to have freedom of information, (letting the people know that this is a) truth, not an opinion or a manipulated piece of information. There is a slight difference between freedom of the press and freedom of information.

[Question] President Reagan said that he would do everything in his power to help Guatemala. Can you tell us anything about the talks held and what, in your view, can be done to help the Guatemalan people?

[Answer] With President Reagan we discussed a number of issues. In the first place, I was very pleased -- and I told him -- to have been invited. I thanked him for the invitation and explained to him what Guatemala is; (I simply told him) what Guatemala is about. I did not ask him for money, or sophisticated weapons or help. However, I did ask him to make it easier for me to seek solutions to our real problems, the way we see them. The President answered that he would study this, and that was all.

[Question] (?Did he specify) what problems he will help you solve?

[Answer] No, we cannot say which ones specifically.

[Question] What facilities could the President provide you?

[Answer] We will see what he can provide. We don't know anything yet.

[Question] Did he give you any type of concrete response at the meeting, at the talks?

[Answer] No, but then neither did I make a concrete request.

[Question] [Words indistinct] to seek democratization and to maintain it. What steps will be taken in this connection? Is Guatemala willing to hold elections? Has President Reagan told you that he would like these elections held? Has he pressured you to have them held?

[Answer] He neither told me nor pressured me. I told the Guatemalan people long time ago that on 23 March, I would issue a law on parties and political committees, as well as a law on the election of a constituent assembly. Once elected, the constituent assembly will establish a timetable for this procedure. I did tell the President that I am not interested in remaining in the government. That is the most interesting aspect, and that is a promise.

[Question] In the last 2 months, a large number of peasants in Guatemala -- some 12,000 peasants, if I'm not mistaken -- have turned themselves in to the Guatemalan Army -- and I am using their own term of turning themselves in to the army -- especially in the zones of Chimaltenango and Huehuetenango. These movements have led to charges that the army in Guatemala is implementing a scorched-earth strategy. What exactly is the Guatemalan Army's strategy?

[Answer] It is not really a scorched-earth strategy. It is a scorched-communist strategy. Now, scorched -- and let's get this straight -- in the sense that they are burned out, that they are simply a bunch of liars. All that we are offering is a new concept of development, which involves safety and respect for dignity. The peasants have realized that this is the first time in history, after 500 years of confinement -- excuse me -- after 490 years I repeat, 490 years after the Indians were discovered, this is the first time in the history of Guatemala, that one third of the members of a State Council are Indians. That is indeed scorched earth, because the communists can no longer do anything there.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] I have to fix Guatemala. We have a very serious problem. We have to integrate and identify ourselves. I believe that once Guatemala is very clean we won't need too many things. They had us as a special experimental area, but we have changed everything. We are doing fine.

[Question] Mr President Rios Montt, what is your government's opinion, or position, toward the position adopted by the new Nicaraguan regime led by nine commanders?

[Answer] I have one concern. I want my Nicaraguan brothers to listen to this. It just happens that Mr Somoza either directly or indirectly governed Central America. You probably remember that in (?1964 he won elections). I don't know if you can remember that. You are too young. Anyhow, Mr Somoza governed Central America. Then, listen carefully, the United States, Russia, Cuba, private enterprise, the news media and the church overthrew Somoza -- and who took the government? Nine commanders.

This afternoon I learned a mathematical operation that is practiced in Nicaragua that says that nine minus nine is equal to zero, referring to Commander Zero, probably.

It is possible that there is a number of things [as heard], but I would like to avoid giving a direct opinion on Nicaragua. I am very worried about the Nicaraguan problem -- not so much about Nicaragua, but the Nicaraguans. How can a people be blamed if their government does not represent them? This is important. Another thing is: What can the people do to have a government that will interpret their feelings and thoughts?

In Central America, excuse me, in Guatemala, here in Guatemala, we need something special: We need March 23's, like the one when I seized the presidency without shooting and without ballots or votes, because I was interested in solving the problems of Guatemala. I am interested in, and committed to, solving the problems of Guatemala, as much as I can, as much as the misinformation campaign allows me to do.

With regard to Nicaragua, I would like to thank you. [sentence as heard] International policy matters are very important. Governments are temporary. Although governments may want to believe that they are kings and lords over the people, it isn't so. The people remain. The Nicaraguan people deserve my greatest respect. Governments are temporary, and we attribute to ourselves rights that we really don't have. Thank you.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] We have ambassadors.

[Question] Yes, that's significant.

[Answer] Yes, yes.

[Question] But what about what is really important and basic in the relations with Nicaragua?

[Answer] We don't have any big problems at the ambassadorial level.

[Question] Mr President, regarding those who have crossed the border with Mexico. Most of them are humble people, isn't that right? They don't have many political interests and for this reason are not interested in lying. In interviews, most of them say the same thing. When they talk about massacres, attacks, etc., they blame the army. How do you explain that?

[Answer] That's a job well done. These are training camps, refugee camps, rest camps and indoctrination camps.

[Question] For what?

[Answer] Communist [indoctrination].

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] We have here a document that we seized from the guerrillas, and we are going to let you have it so that you realize what they use refugee camps for. It is written here.

[Question] Well, let me try another area, does the Mexican Government know of the document also?

[Answer] No. I am going to make it available to them now that Mr de la Madrid has arrived.

[Question] Your government has announced that organized political groups of the left will or could participate in the elections.

[Answer] That's right, sir: all the political parties and doctrines, because along with the constituent elections we will also decide on what a political party is, and no alliances will be accepted. There will have to be well-defined and clear organizations so that political parties and committees may arise from this:

[Question] Are you going to participate as a candidate?

[Answer] No, sir.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Your question is what would I do if there were a confrontation between Nicaragua and Honduras?

[Question] Yes.

[Answer] I would get between them so that they don't fight. If they can talk, why kill each other.

[Question] Mr President, what is your opinion of the Honduran-Nicaraguan situation?

[Answer] The problem between Honduras and Nicaragua worries me a great deal; and I would like, if I am taken into consideration, to hold some negotiations. I would try to prevent a confrontation, because fighting each other is not the way to arrange things. We are sister peoples with permanent and [words indistinct] and there is no reason to fight each other. The governments are the expressions of the peoples, but they aren't the peoples. I would like you to be so kind as to tell the Honduras and Nicaraguans that if they have any hope, Guatemala could be a mediator. [words indistinct]

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Probably by the end of the year, probably.

[Question] (?What year)

[Answer] 1983.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Popular democracy or republican democracy?

[Question] Democracy [words indistinct] but without conditions.

[Answer] [Words indistinct] Up to the constituent assembly.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] The representatives of the people.

[Question] Including all the representatives?

[Answer] All the representatives and all the parties and all the ideologies we have mentioned, including the communists -- without arms, but with intelligence [as heard].

HAVANA REPORTS ON REAGAN LATIN AMERICA TOUR

PA050348 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Dec 82

[Excerpts] U.S. President Ronald Reagan arrived in the Ramon Villada Morales Airport of San Pedro Sula, 250 km north of Tegucigalpa, Capital of Honduras, the last leg of his Latin American tour. Roberto Suazo Cordova, the leader of the Honduran regime, and his Cabinet welcomed Reagan at the Armando Escalon Air Base located adjacent to the San Pedro Sula air terminal. During his 3-hour stay in San Pedro Sula, the U.S. President will also meet with Guatemalan dictator Efraim Rios Montt.

Reagan arrived in Honduras from Costa Rica where he met with President Luis Alberto Monge and signed an extradition treaty whose details have yet to be released. In San Jose, Reagan also met with Alvaro Magana, the nominal leader of the Salvadoran regime, with whom he signed a joint declaration in which they express their satisfaction over the state of the relations between El Salvador and the United States and the decisions to remain in direct contact with the objective of increasing bilateral cooperation.

Press reports indicate that Deputy Sergio Erick Ardon, secretary of the Costa Rican Peoples Revolutionary Movement, interrupted the speech being delivered by the U.S. President in the National Theater in San Jose in order to express his rejection of the visitor. It has also been learned that the Costa Rican police attacked and arrested an unspecified number of people who were in downtown San Jose protesting Ronald Reagan's visit. Those arrested were turned over to the intelligence and security directorate which jointly with the U.S. Secret Service was in charge of the exceptional security measures adopted to protect the U.S. President.

For their part, former Costa Rican Ministers (Alberto Calas Escalante), (Carmen Moran Jocoto) and Elizabeth Odio said in a public letter to President Ronald Reagan that the U.S. and Costa Rican foreign policies should take the path of respect for other's rights.

At the same time, U.S. citizens living in Costa Rica expressed their deep disagreement with Washington's policy toward Central America. They stressed that U.S. support for the Salvadoran and Guatemalan regimes is incompatible with the concern for human rights and democracy.

Meanwhile, the Nicaraguan morning newspaper BARRICADA said that during his brief visits to Costa Rica and Honduras, the U.S. President will try to force his holy alliance to divide Central America and isolate Nicaragua. It stressed that just as U.S. filibuster William Walker did in 1856, today Ronald Reagan is trying to divide and conquer with threats and gifts.

Meanwhile, in Rio de Janeiro, local experts commented that the only result of Ronald Reagan's visit to Brazil is that this country will have to pay more than \$101 million in interest on a \$1.23 billion loan granted by the United States.

Further Reaction Cited

PA051952 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 Dec 82

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan returned to Washington Friday after a 6-day [as heard] tour of four Latin American nations. On his arrival at Andrews Air Force Base, Reagan declared that Washington's goal is not to aid those countries through direct funds, but to reinforce their institutions, which was interpreted as a reiteration of the policy followed so far, consisting in military support of the Latin American regimes.

The U.S. chief of state said he thought that military aid to Guatemala should be renewed to hold elections in a year and because, he added, the Guatemalan President is an unconditional supporter of democracy. Reagan admitted that Guatemalan President Efraín Ríos Montt had been often criticized, but he said that during their meeting the Guatemalan chief of state had given him information and data that justified the U.S. military aid. Many sectors in the United States have denounced the constant violations of human rights by the fascist regime of Ríos Montt, basically against the rural sector, and many U.S. Congressmen have voiced their opposition to the renewal of military support to that Central American country. Such aid would involve the sale to Guatemala of helicopters and other military equipment valued at over \$3 million.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, meanwhile, referred to popular demonstrations against Reagan's tour of four Latin American nations. It noted that in Bogotá Reagan suffered a serious setback when Colombian President Belisario Betancur criticized the policy as well as White House attempts to exclude and isolate some nations of the area.

Meanwhile the Canadian papers GLOBE AND MAIL and LE DEVOIR agreed in noting the popular rejection of Reagan in the four Latin American nations he visited, while Nicaragua's BARRICADA charged that during his visit to Honduras and Costa Rica the U.S. chief executive tried to establish an alliance against the Sandinist revolution with the support of the authorities of those two countries. BARRICADA said that just like U.S. filibuster William Walker in 1856, today Ronald Reagan is trying to divide and conquer with threats and gifts.

RAUL CASTRO MEETS GDR, SOVIET OFFICERS

FL031448 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1255 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Text] Reception was held in the Universal Hall of the FAR last night to celebrate the 26th anniversary of the landing of Granma and the creation of the FAR. The reception was attended by Gen Raul Castro, PCC Second Secretary and FAR minister, Interior Minister Ramiro Valdes, Culture Minister Armando Hart, Jorge Risquet and Julio Camacho Aguilera, members of the Politburo.

Gen Raul Castro held a friendly conversation with Gen Heinz Kessler, SED member, deputy minister of national defense and chief of political main administration of the GDR Armed Forces, who is heading a military delegation which is visiting our country. General Castro also met with Vice Adm Vladimir Kuglyakov, first deputy chief of the Soviet Northern Fleet, who has been visiting Cuba since 1 December. Soviet Ambassador to Cuba Konstantin Katushev was also present at the reception to celebrate the landing of Granma and the creation of FAR as were other FAR generals and officers, military attaches accredited in Cuba and other guests.

ALMEIDA VISITING ZANZIBAR, TANZANIA

FL041957 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] Juan Almeida Bosque, Vice President of Cuba's Council of State, today made a brief official stop in Dar es Salaam, capital of Tanzania, en route to the island of Zanzibar. Almeida will meet with his Tanzanian counterpart, Mwinyi Aboud Jumbe, who is also president of Zanzibar. Radio Zanzibar reported that the Cuban vice president will be received with a 19-gun salute when he arrives on the island today, and an official banquet will be hosted in his honor tonight. The Cuban leader will return tomorrow to Dar es Salaam, where he will hold talks with Tanzania's President Julius Nyerere.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRSARGENTINA, PARAGUAY EXCHANGE NOTES ON YACYRETA

PY031242 Asuncion Teledifusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Dec 82

[Summary] Paraguay and Argentina have signed exchange notes with the purpose of resuming work on the Yacyreta Hydroelectric Project.

To Seek Loan

PY040201 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 Dec 82 p 11

[Text] (NA) -- An Argentine-Paraguayan delegation will be travelling to the United States next week to negotiate a 990 million dollar loan for the Yacyreta dam, Public Works Minister Conrado Bauer announced yesterday. Bauer, who signed an agreement in Asuncion yesterday for Argentina to manage the hydroelectrical project until 1989, also said work on the dam will be started in the second half of next year. Funds for the project are to come from the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Eximbank.

CHILECARABINEROS BREAK UP DEMONSTRATION, ARREST 30

PY031255 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Text] Members of the Carabineros force arrested 30 people at Artesanos Square in Santiago when they were trying to hold an unauthorized demonstration. Carabineros were forced to interfere since the demonstration, which was organized by the self-styled National Union Coordinating Board which is not legally recognized, was merely a political meeting. The meeting started shortly after 1830 yesterday when political agitators, who started shouting slogans and insulting words against the government authorities, started arriving at the Mapocho train station. Among the arrested persons are two union leaders of Goodyear company. Personnel of this company are currently on strike.

Several Injured

PY032341 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2358 GMT 2 Dec 82

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 2 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- Several journalists and union leaders were injured today when security forces dispersed a workers' rally. The rally was called by the National Labor Union Coordinating Board (CNS) to demand wage increases, observers reported. Carabineros' members (militarized police) and policemen in civilian clothes halted the demonstration. Approximately 30 persons were reportedly arrested during the operation, the observers added.

The local radio station Cooperativa reported that some lawyers and journalists were attacked by civilians with blunt weapons while they were talking with high-ranking Carabineros officers. CNS Chairman Manuel Bustos was among the injured, the radio station added. The radio station also reported that at least two journalists were admitted to hospital units after being attacked by the civilians. One cameraman was attacked and knocked down with his camera, observers stated.

ECUADOROFFICER WOUNDED BY 'GUERRILLAS' AT COLOMBIAN BORDER

PA032326 Paris AFP in Spanish 2009 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Text] Quito, 3 Dec (AFP) -- It was reported today in Quito that an Ecuadorean Army officer was wounded on Friday when a group of unidentified men fired on a post on the border with Colombia. The incident occurred in eastern Ecuador. Quoting military sources, including Gen Jorge Arciniegas, commander of the Ecuadorean Army, Ecuador's morning newspapers reported on the clash between Ecuadorean Armed Forces' troops and alleged guerrillas, who fled into Colombia after wounding the Ecuadorean officer. The attack took place due north of the (Agrio Lake), in Ecuador's primary oil area on the border with Colombia. Arciniegas recalled that this same border post was attacked last year by alleged members of the 19 April Movement, M-19, causing the death of two Ecuadorean soldiers.

Meanwhile, a tense situation is developing in northeastern Ecuador because of the strikes decreed by tenant farmers, who have been stopping traffic in the area. For this reason, traffic is now limited to airplanes and helicopters, which are being used to take supplies to workers in the oil fields.

PERUTERRORISTS OCCUPY FOUR TOWNS IN AYACUCHO

PY041900 Paris AFP in Spanish 0312 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] Lima, 3 Dec (AFP) -- It was reported here tonight that in a simultaneous offensive action, guerrilla members of the pro-Pol Pot organization Shining Path occupied four small towns today in the Department of Ayacucho, and that after seizing some provisions they withdrew with no one reacting against them.

The town that were occupied are San Jose de Ticlla, Quispis, Soccos and Pomacocha. Some of these towns had been objects of attacks by the terrorists before. The attacks were carried out during the past 24 hours. It was reported that in each case, groups of 20 terrorists, armed with light machineguns and home-made grenades, entered the towns and forced the people to leave their houses, and after haranguing them, the terrorists demanded food from the people and threatened to come back and kill them if they cooperated with the police.

VENEZUELAFINANCE MINISTER UGUETO PRESENTS RESIGNATION

PA031548 Paris AFP in Spanish 1328 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Text] Caracas, 3 Dec (AFP) -- Venezuelan Finance Minister Luis Ugueto has presented his resignation to President Luis Herrera Campins "because of a general disagreement with the present economic policy," according to sources at Miraflores Palace (the presidency). Ugueto has held the post since March 1979. He was a member of the first Cabinet formed by the new Social Christian administration that came to power shortly after the general elections in December 1978.

According to informed sources, Ugueto's successor may be Dr Arturo Sosa, a former finance minister and former Venezuelan ambassador to the United States.